

THORGAL

Beyond the Shadows

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME



9th CINEBOOK
The 9th Art Publisher

Rosinski 83

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THORGAL

Beyond the Shadows





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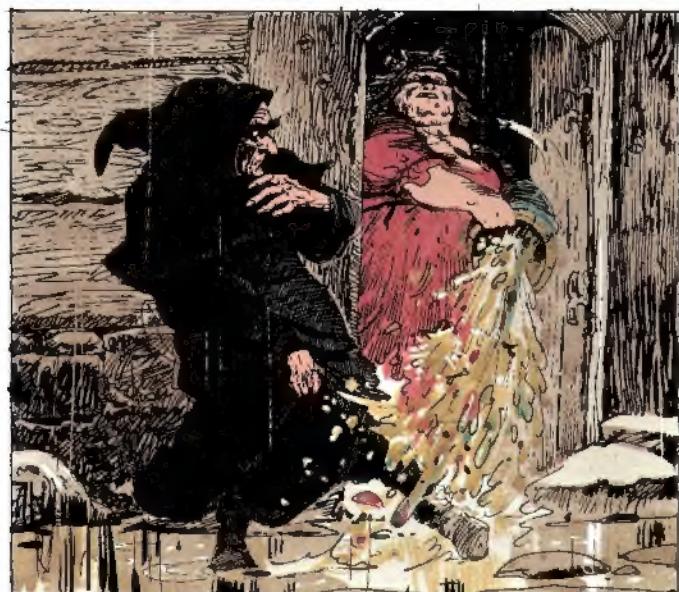
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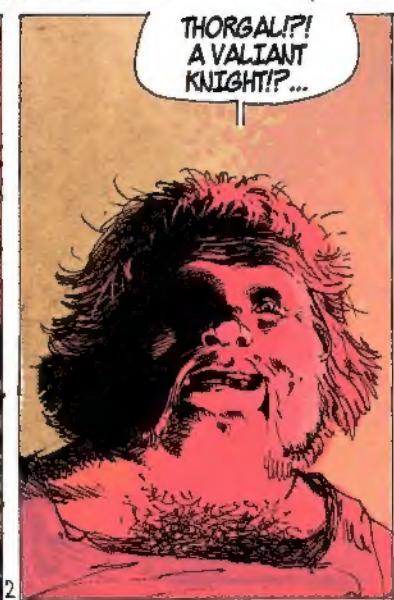
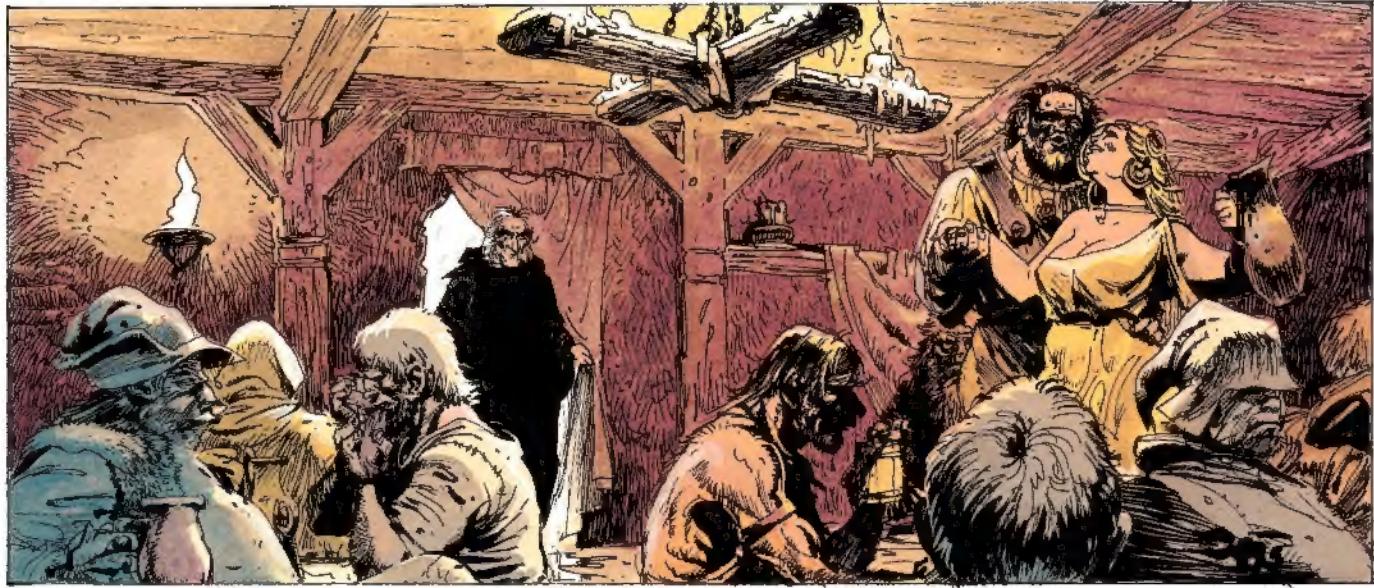
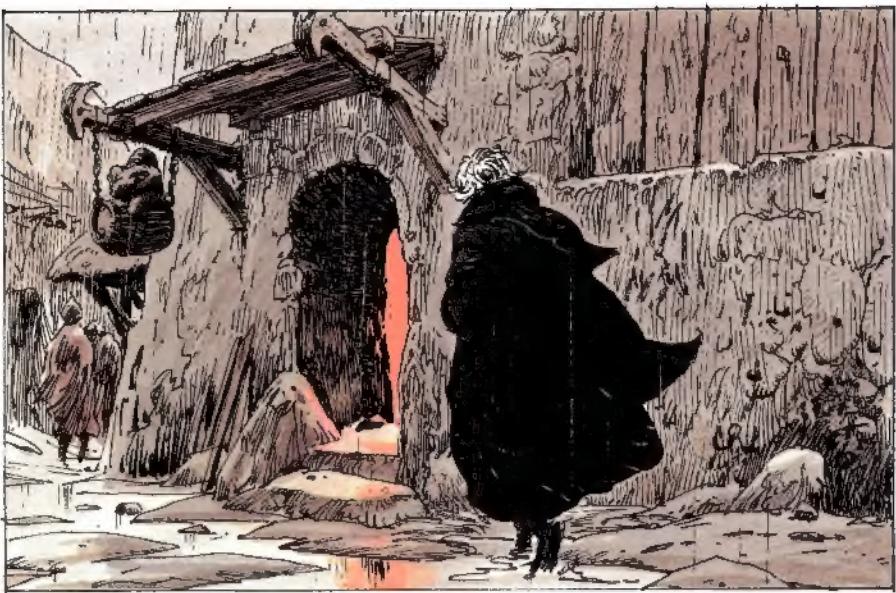
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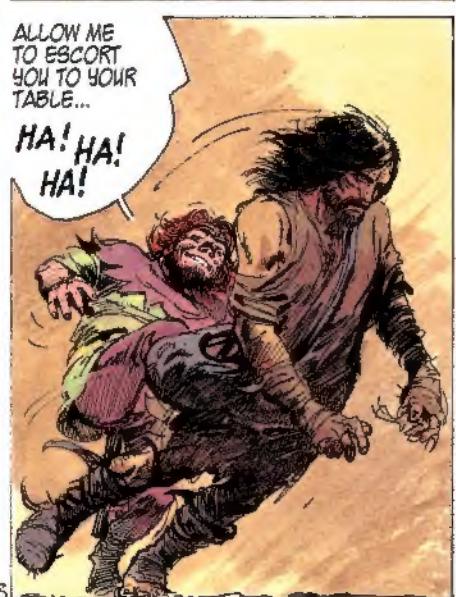
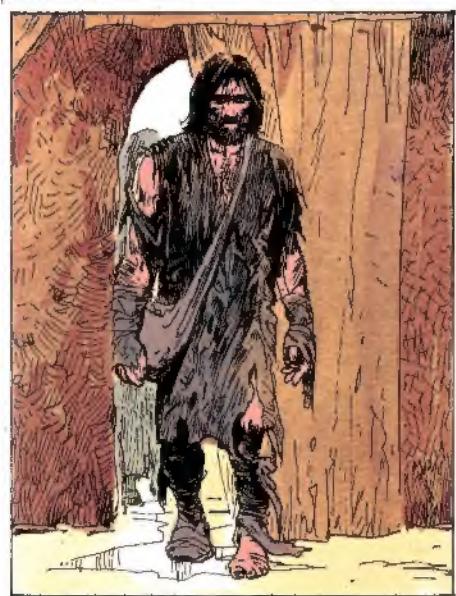
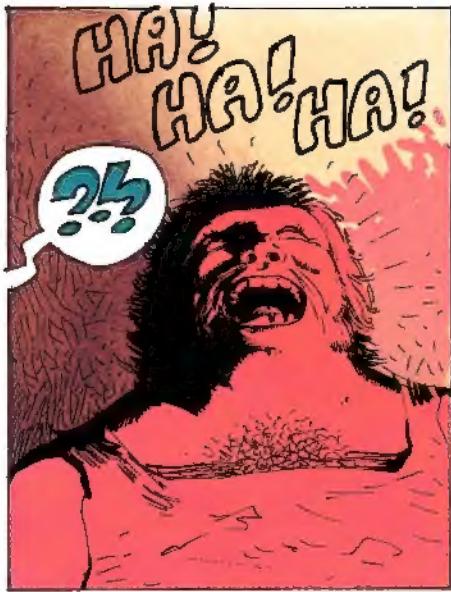
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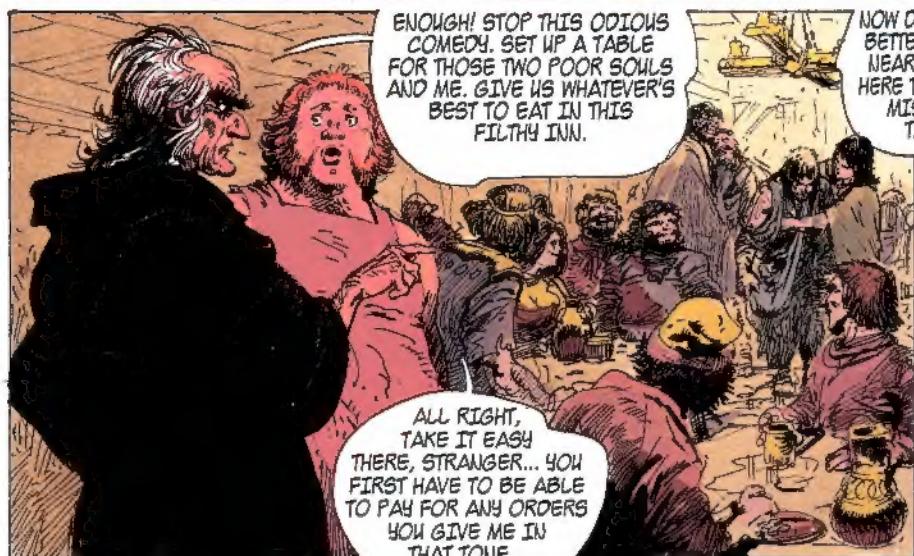
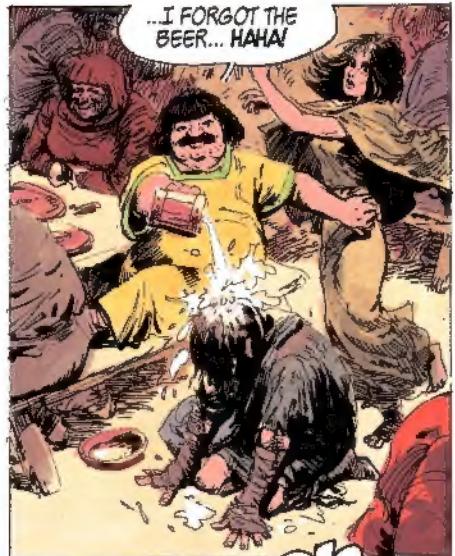
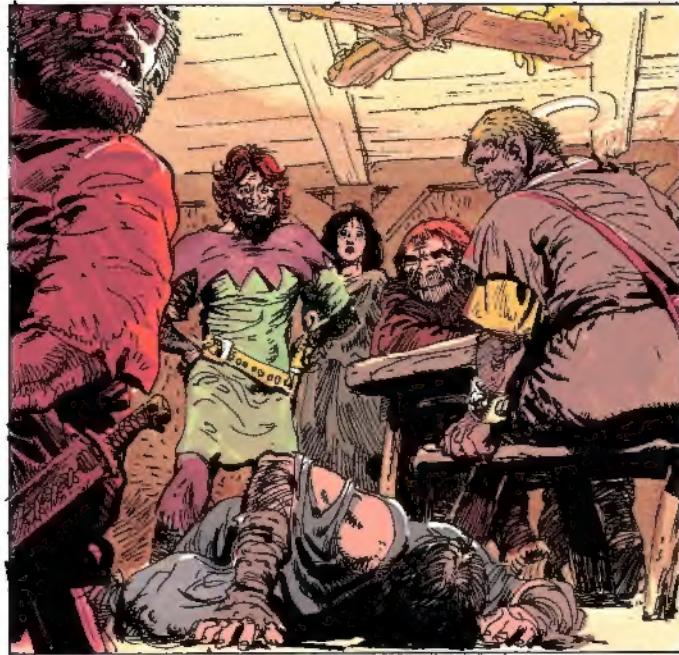
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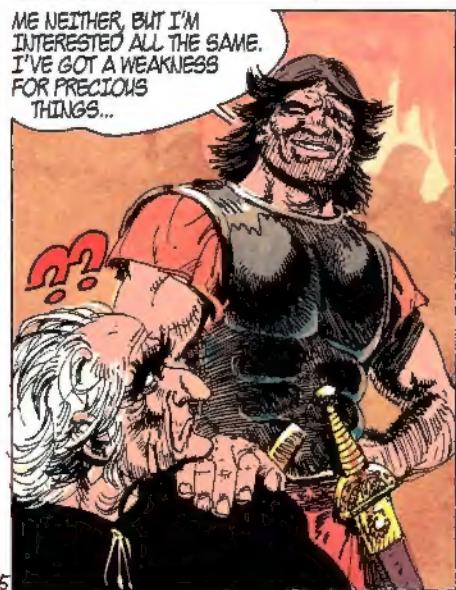
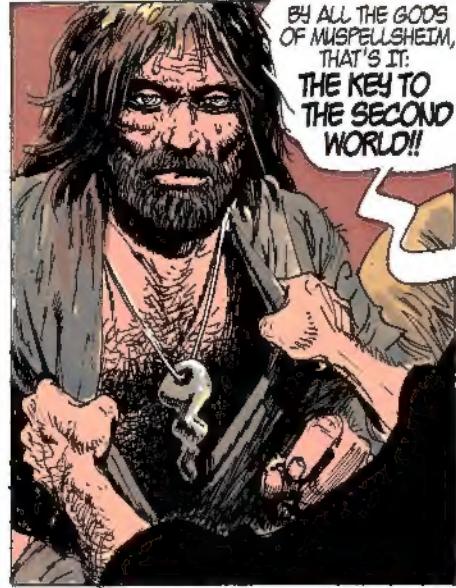
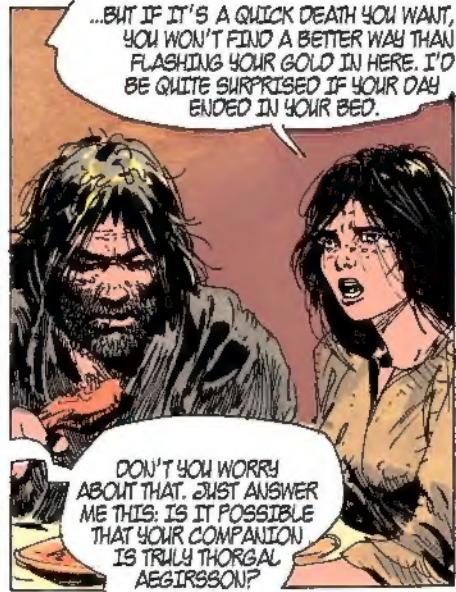
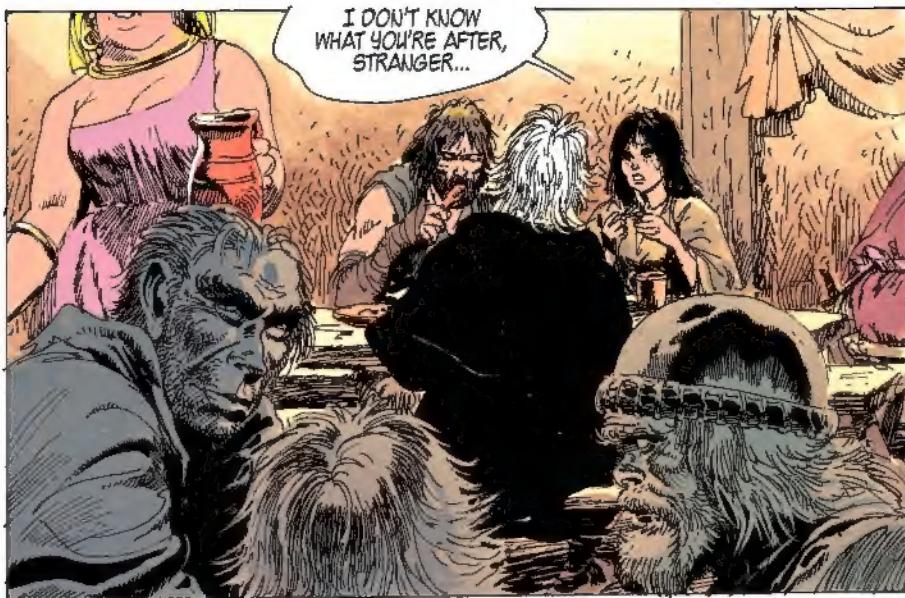
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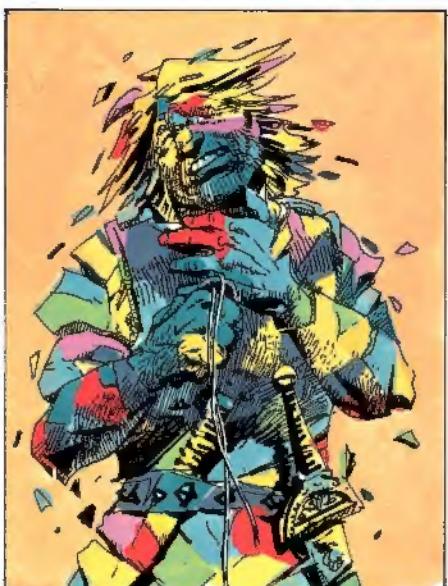
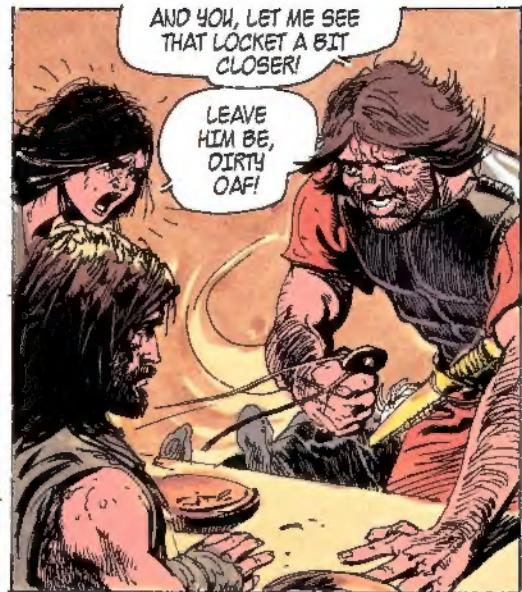


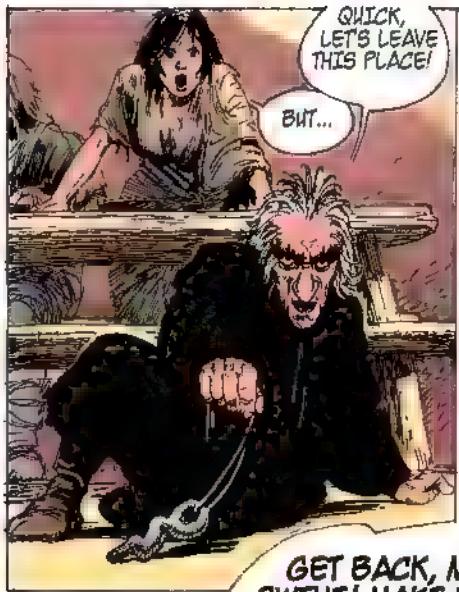


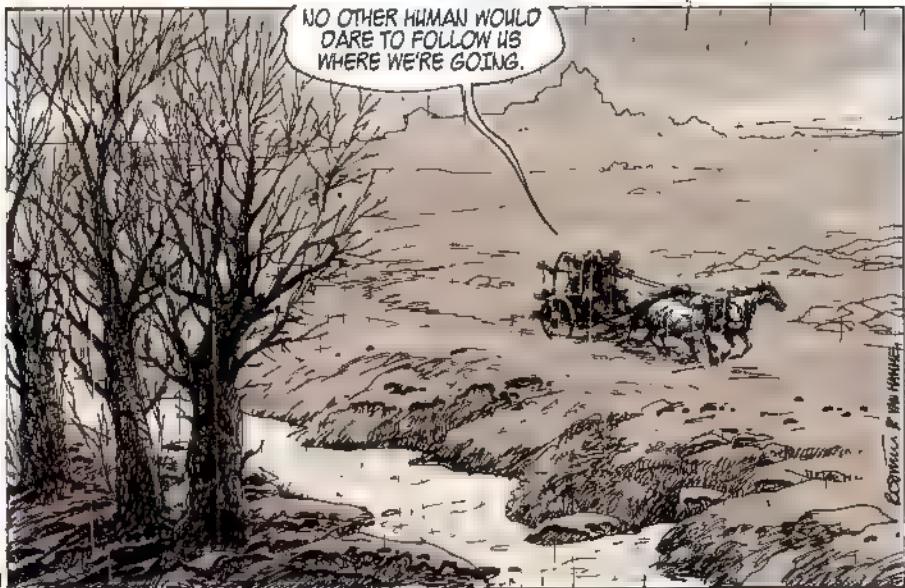
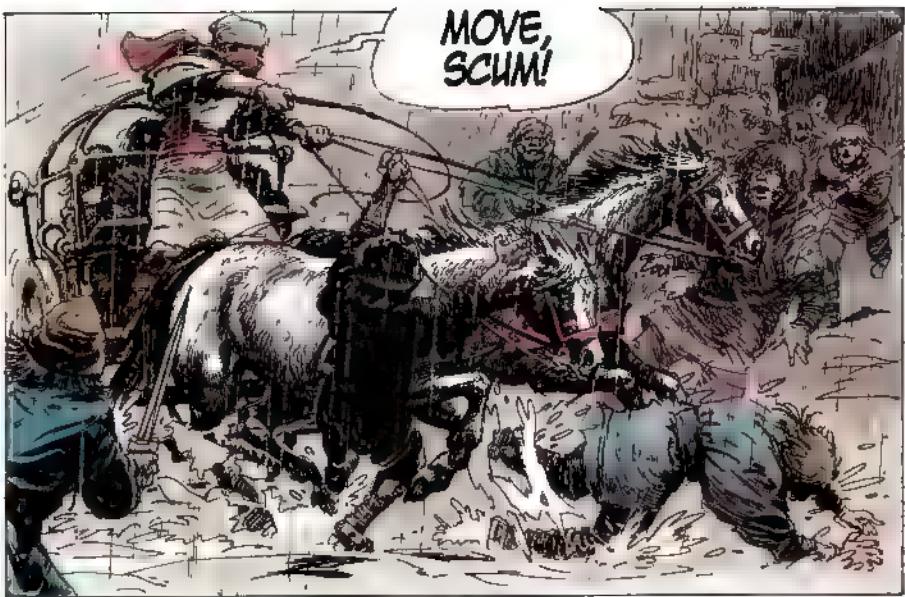


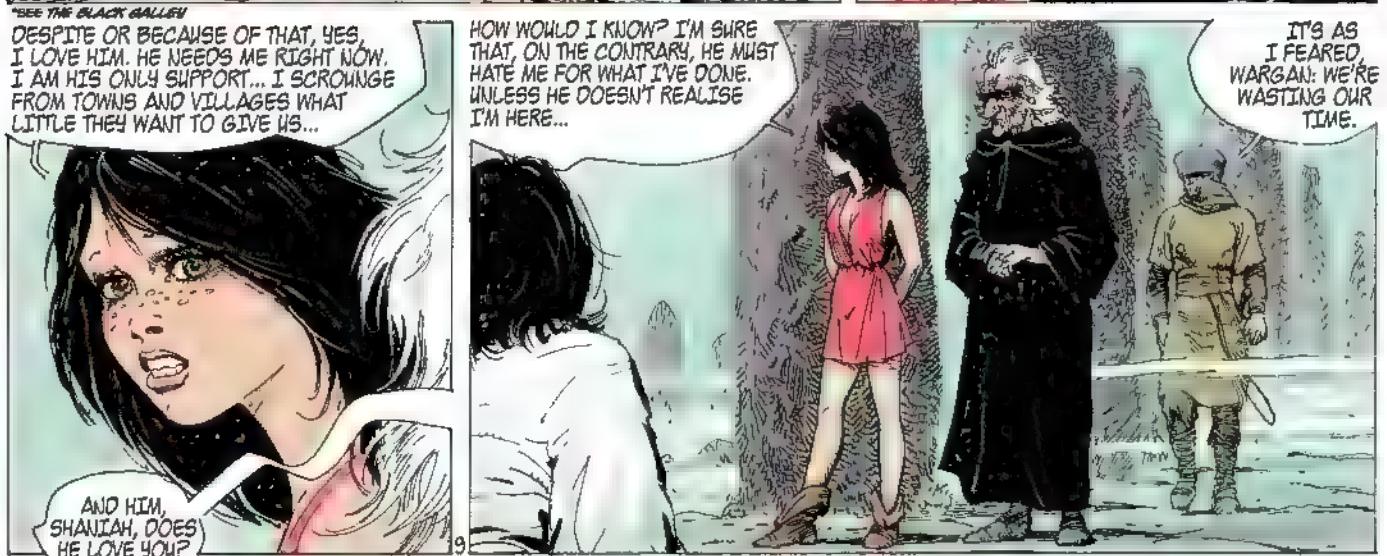


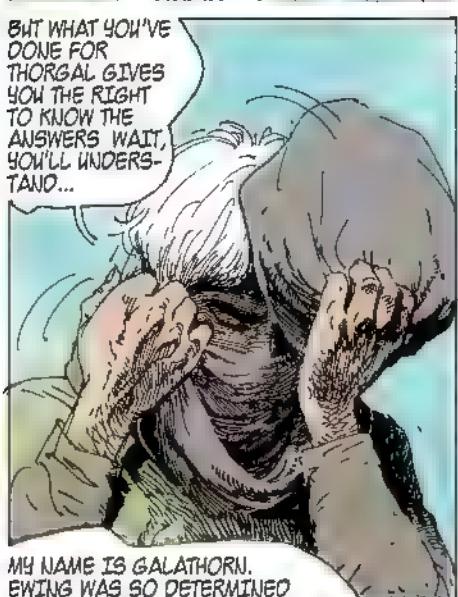
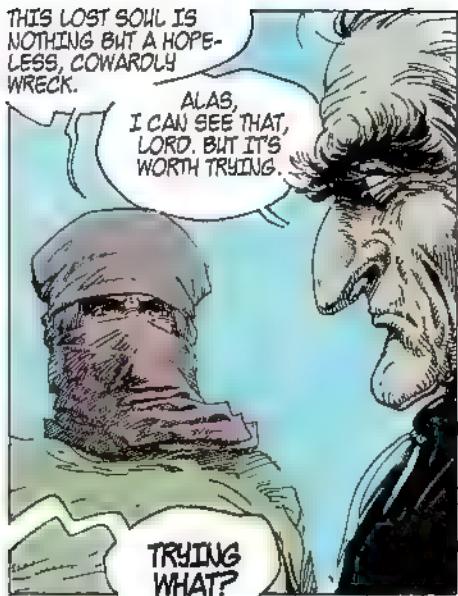








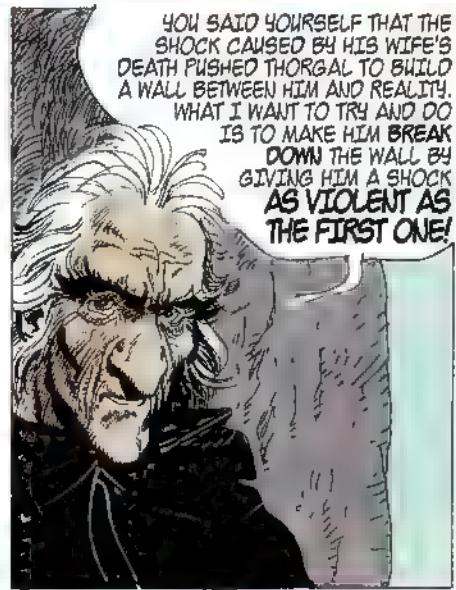
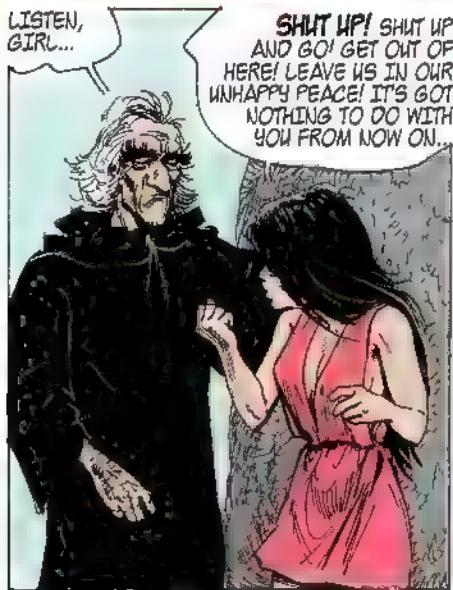




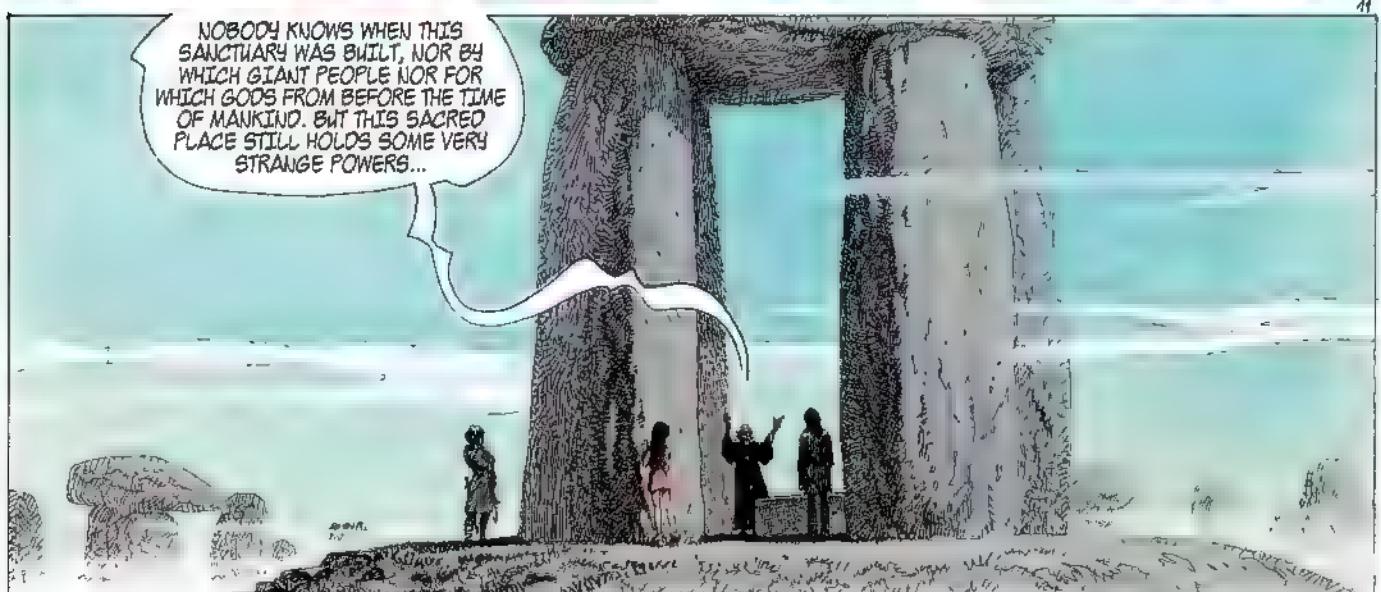
HAHAHAHAH!
THAT'S SO FUNNY!...

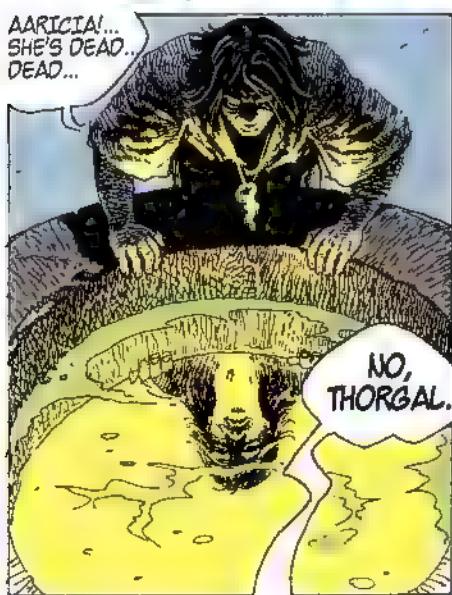
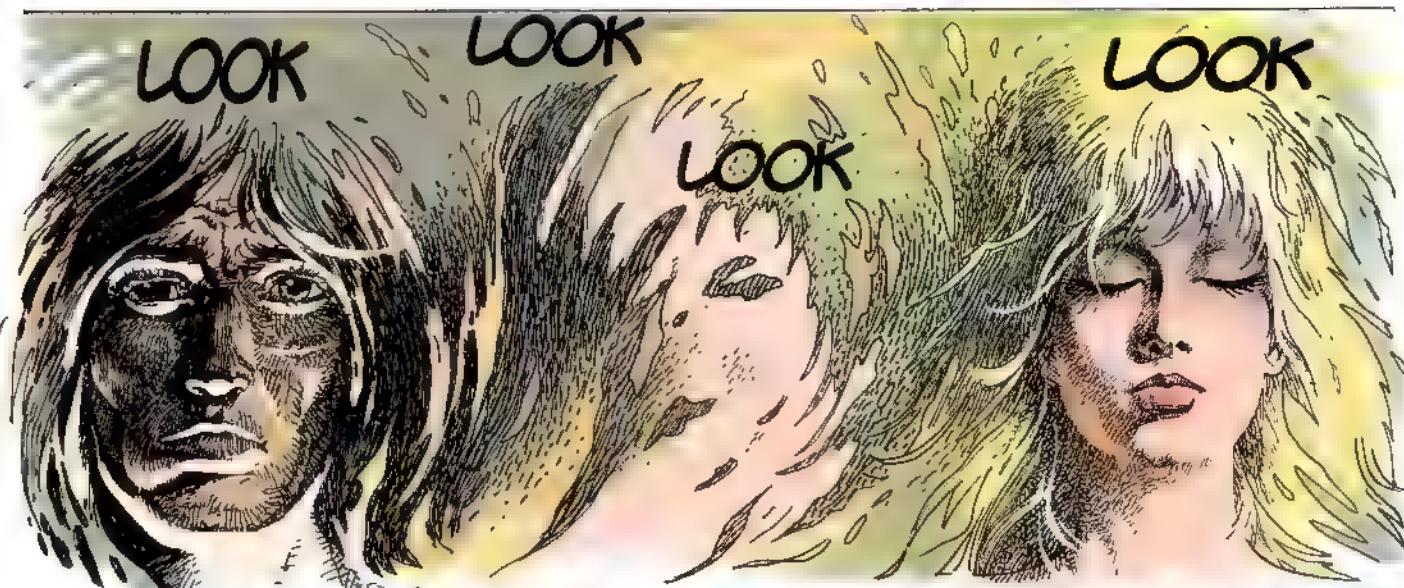
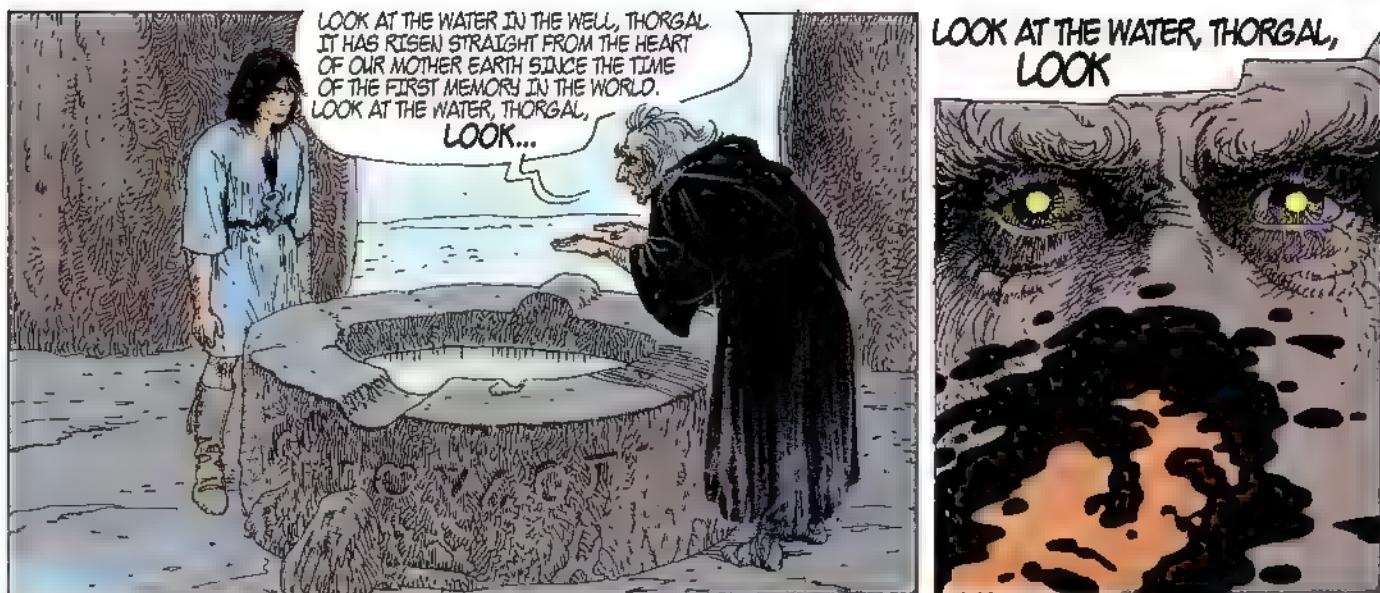


LISTEN,
GIRL...



NOBODY KNOWS WHEN THIS SANCTUARY WAS BUILT, NOR BY WHICH GIANT PEOPLE NOR FOR WHICH GODS FROM BEFORE THE TIME OF MANKIND. BUT THIS SACRED PLACE STILL HOLDS SOME VERY STRANGE POWERS...







IN BREK ZARTH. I KNOW FROM A TRUSTWORTHY SOURCE. BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT OUR TIME IS SHORT: AARICIA IS STILL ALIVE, BUT NOT FOR LONG. SHE WAS PICKED UP NEAR THE COAST OF YOUR VILLAGE BY ONE OF SHARDAR'S VESSELS THAT WAS OUT TO FIND ME. SHE WAS HALF DROWNED AND JUST ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH... THE VESSEL TOOK HER TO THE ROYAL BREK ZARTH COURT.



AARICIA SEEMS STRICKEN WITH
AN UNKNOWN ILLNESS THAT NO
DOCTOR HAS MANAGED TO CURE.
EVEN PRIESTS AND SORCERERS
TRIED AND FAILED. IT'S AS IF
SHE HERSELF REFUSES TO GO
ON LIVING...

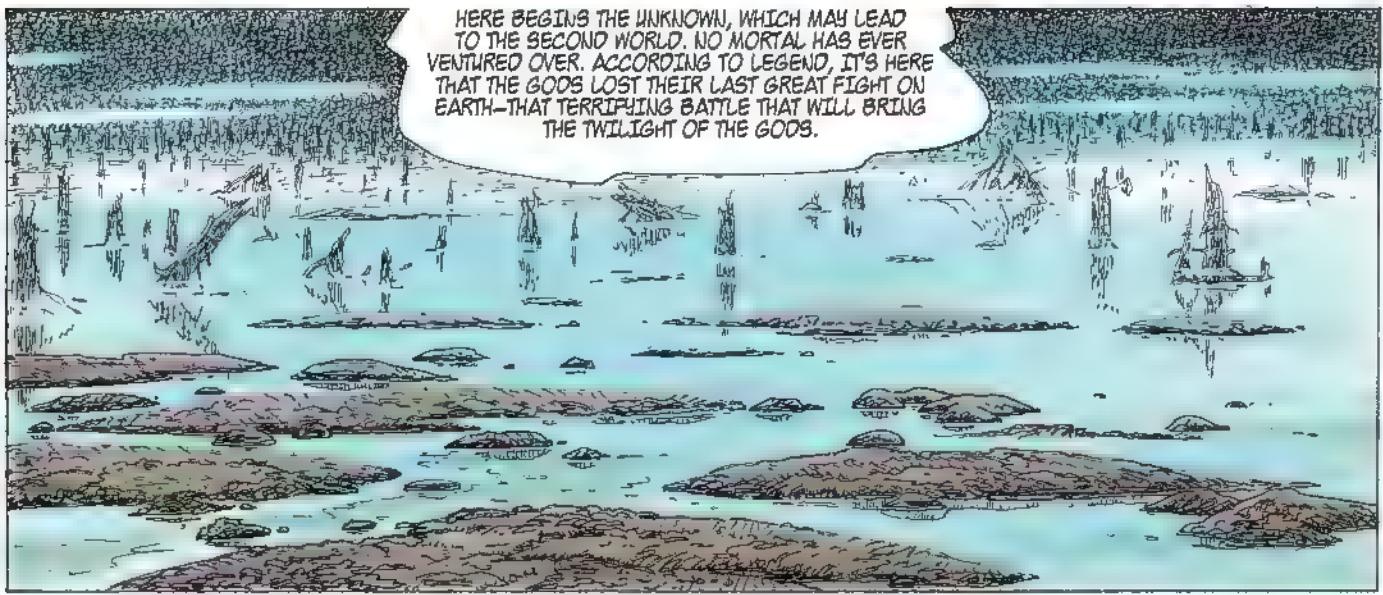


AND WHAT DO YOU
WANT FROM THORGAL?
THAT HE TAKES ON
BREK ZARTH ALONE
TO WIN BACK HIS
WIFE?

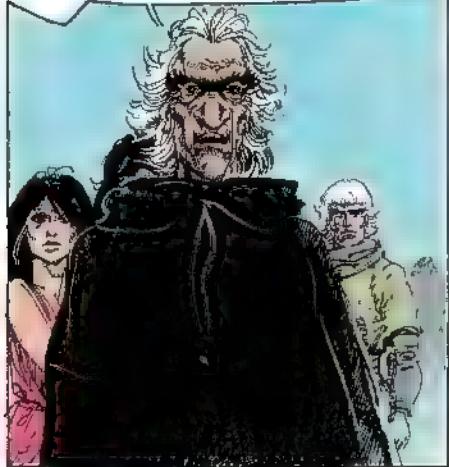




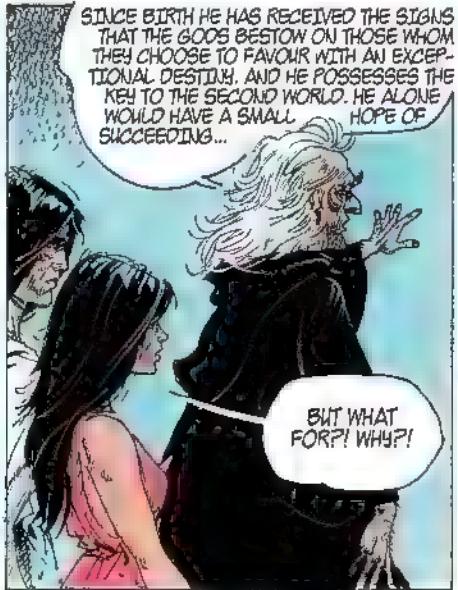
HERE WE'VE REACHED
THE BORDER OF THE
DOMAIN OF MEN...



HERE BEGINS THE UNKNOWN, WHICH MAY LEAD
TO THE SECOND WORLD. NO MORTAL HAS EVER
VENTURED OVER. ACCORDING TO LEGEND, IT'S HERE
THAT THE GODS LOST THEIR LAST GREAT FIGHT ON
EARTH—THAT TERRIFYING BATTLE THAT WILL BRING
THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS.



AND WHEN THE GODS RETIRED, THEY RAISED
INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES BETWEEN
THEM AND MEN, OF WHICH WE KNOW
NOTHING YET. IT'S THESE OBSTACLES
THAT THORGAL MUST OVERCOME.



SINCE BIRTH HE HAS RECEIVED THE SIGNS
THAT THE GODS BESTOW ON THOSE WHOM
THEY CHOOSE TO FAVOUR WITH AN EXCEP-
TIONAL DESTINY. AND HE POSSESSES THE
KEY TO THE SECOND WORLD. HE ALONE
WOULD HAVE A SMALL HOPE OF
SUCCEEDING...



WHEN HUMAN STRENGTH CAN NO
LONGER SAVE SOMEONE FROM CERTAIN
DEATH, ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO IS TO
BOW BEFORE THE UNKNOWN ENTITIES
WHO HOLD THAT PERSON'S EXISTENCE
IN THEIR HANDS.

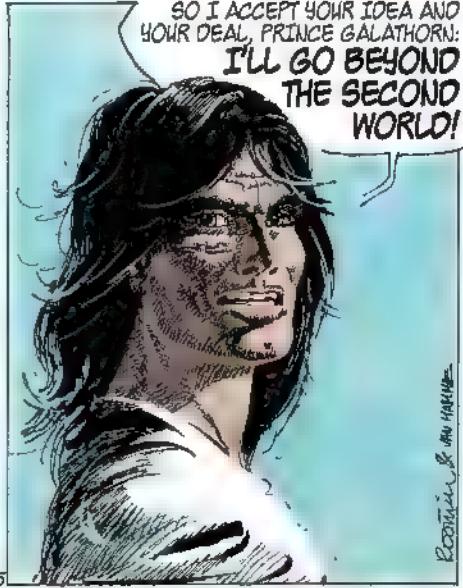
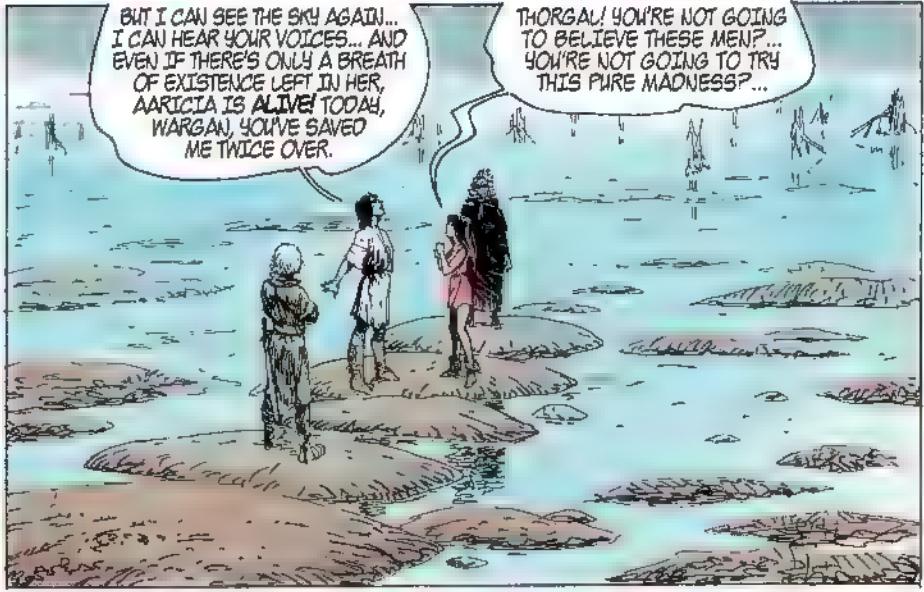
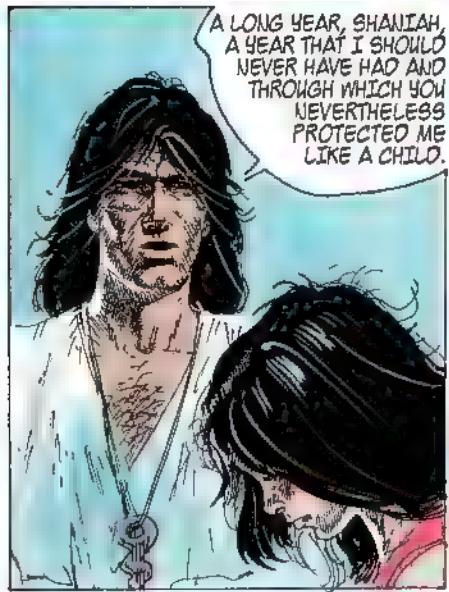


BUT WHAT
FOR? WHY?



SO IT'S NOT TO THE SECOND
WORLD THAT THORGAL MUST GO
TO SAVE AARICIA, BUT,

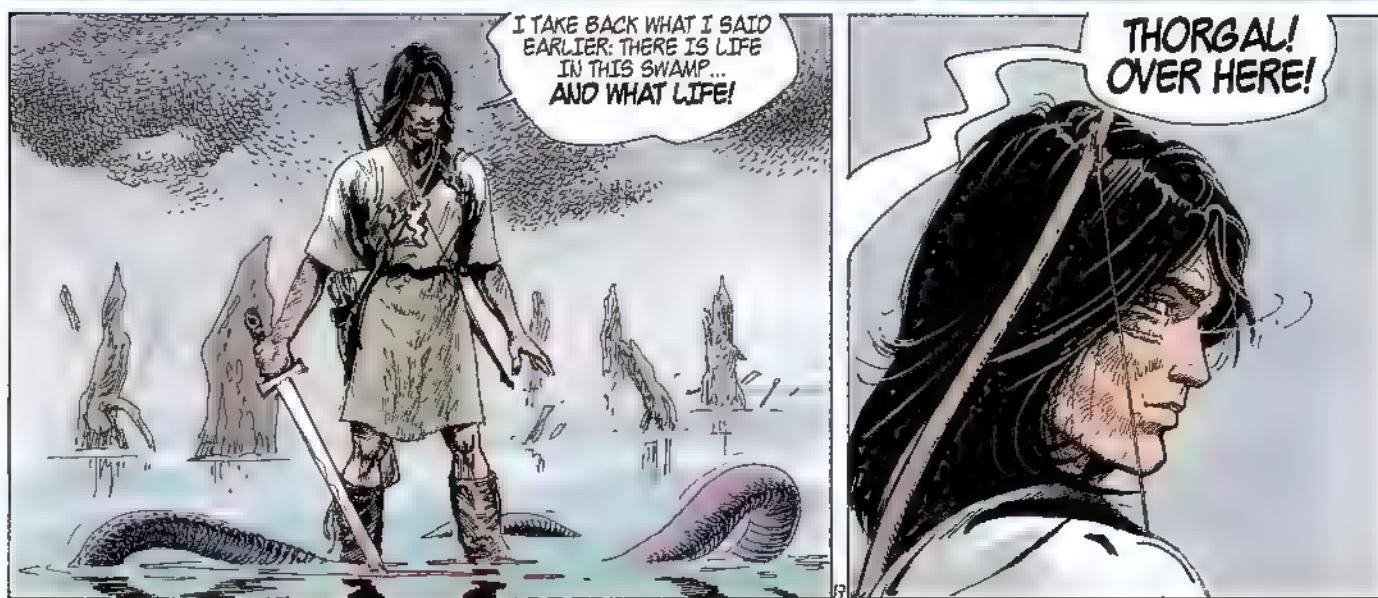
**BEYOND
THAT,
TO DEATH
ITSELF!**

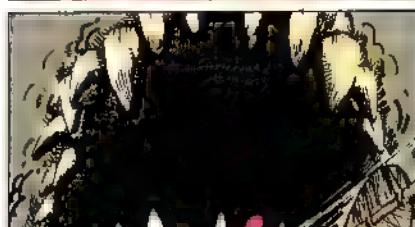
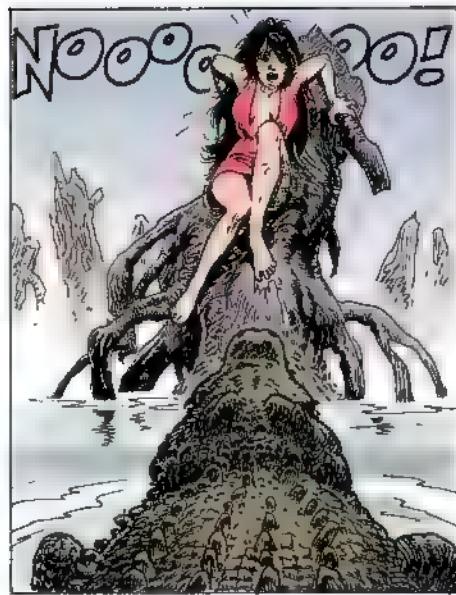




NOT THE SMALLEST
SIGN OF LIFE... NOT
BIRD, NOR INSECT,
NOR PLANT...
NOTHING.









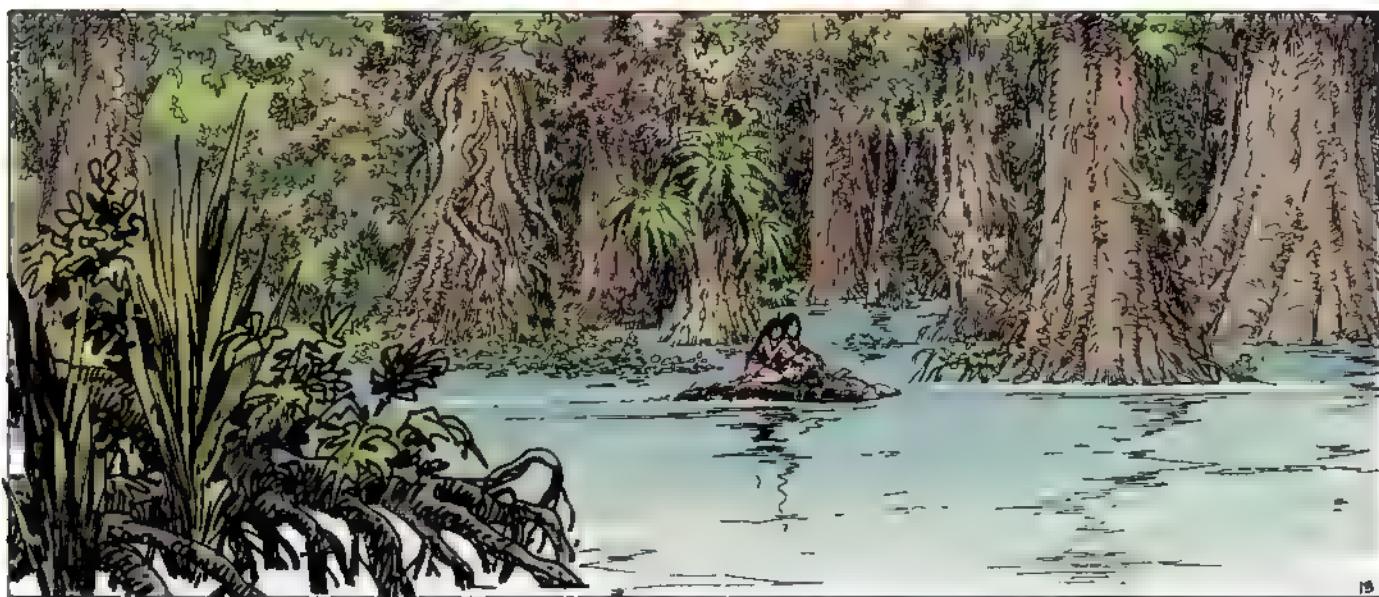
FOOLISH? WHY I'M
HAPPY TO BE SCARED,
BECAUSE YOU'RE HERE
TO PROTECT ME IT IS
MY TURN, AFTER ALL.

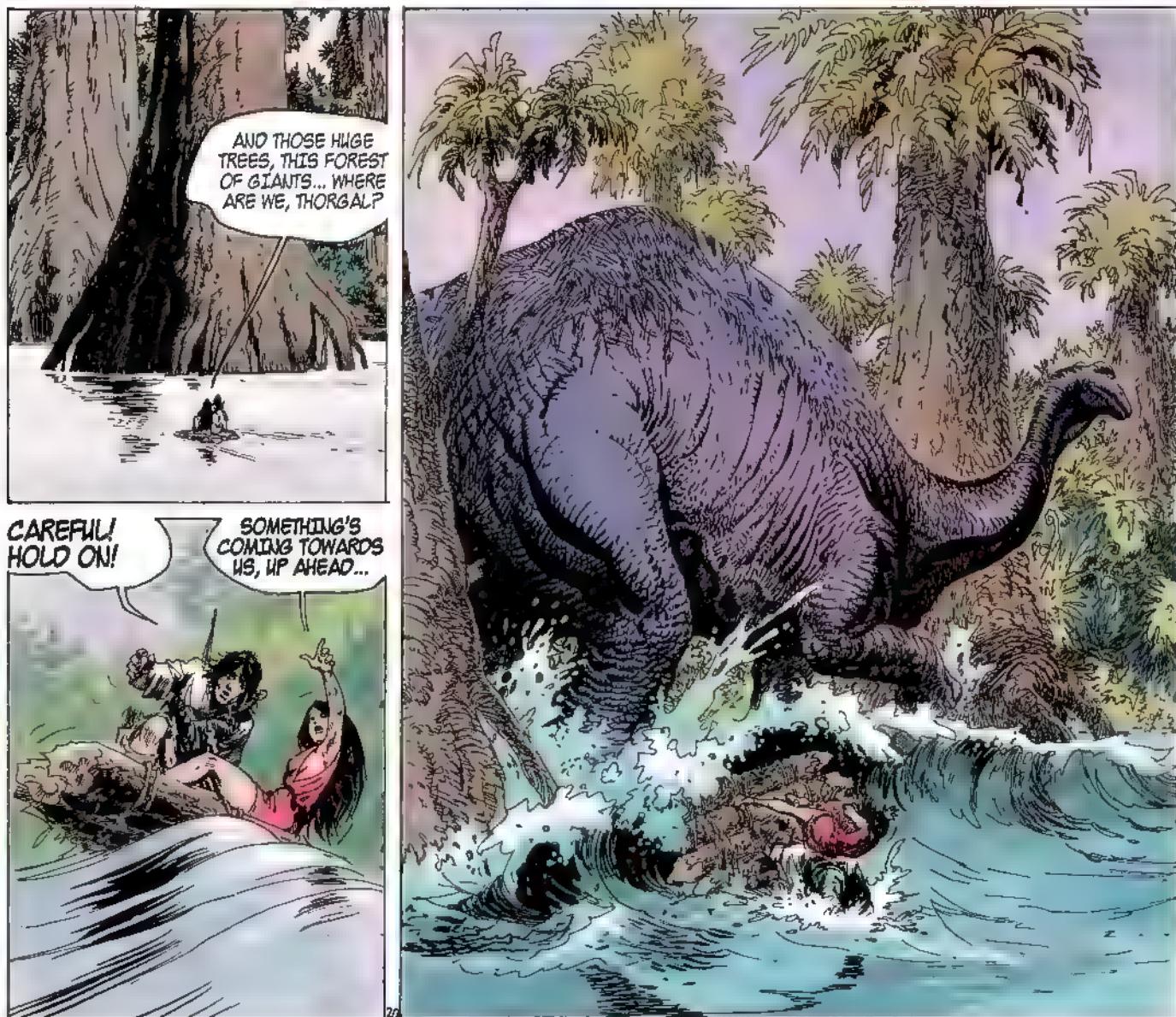
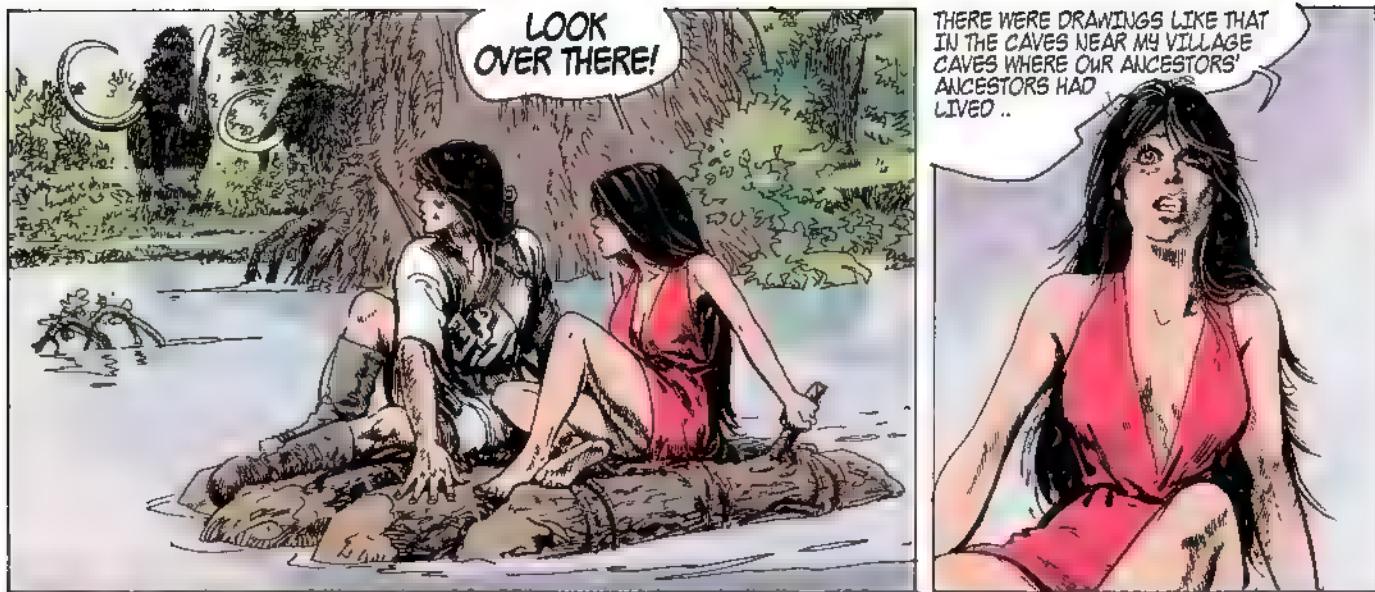
HUH?...

WELL, NO USE TO
ARGUE... TRY INSTEAD
TO FIND ME SOMETHING
TO USE AS LASHINGS.

WHAT
FOR?

THE WATER IS GETTING DEEPER
AND DEEPER AND THE CURRENT IS
GETTING STRONGER. WE MAY AS
WELL MAKE THE MOST OF IT.

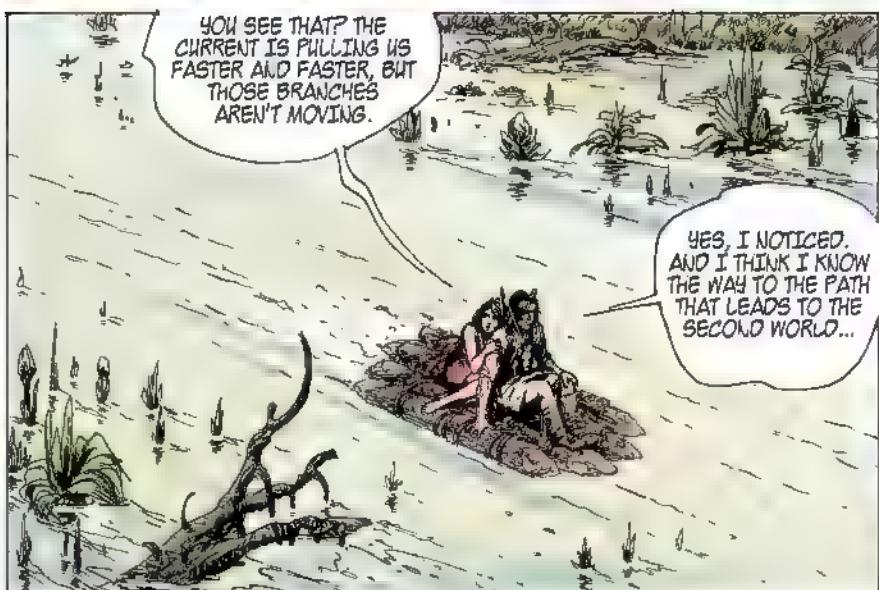
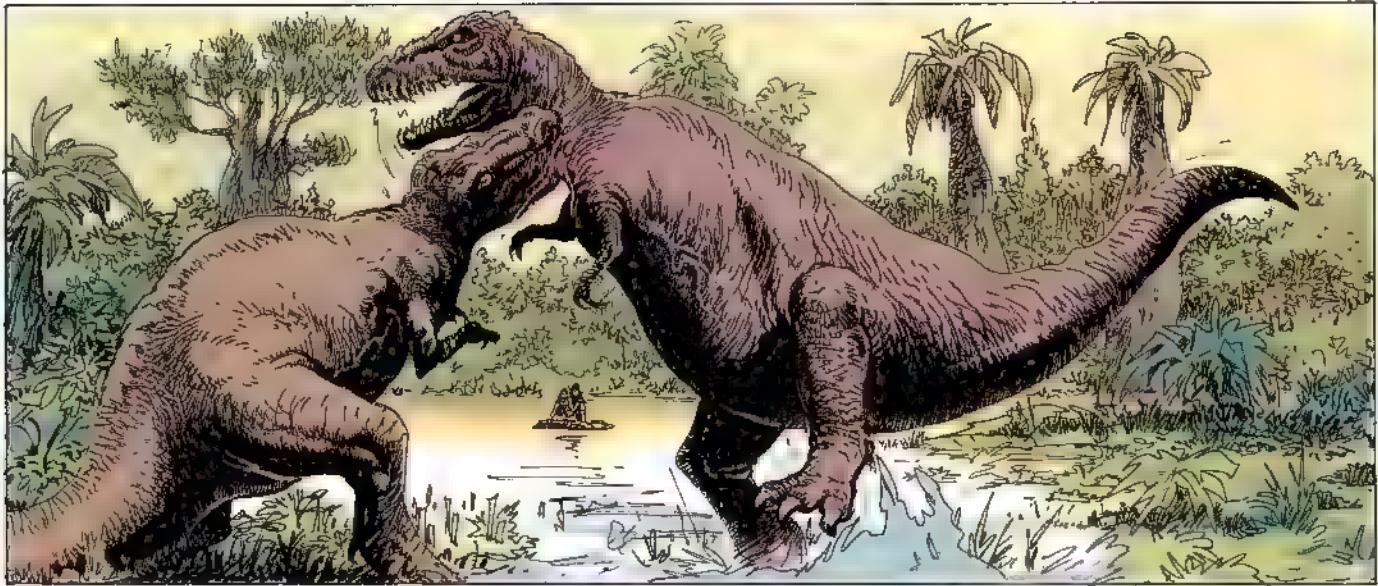
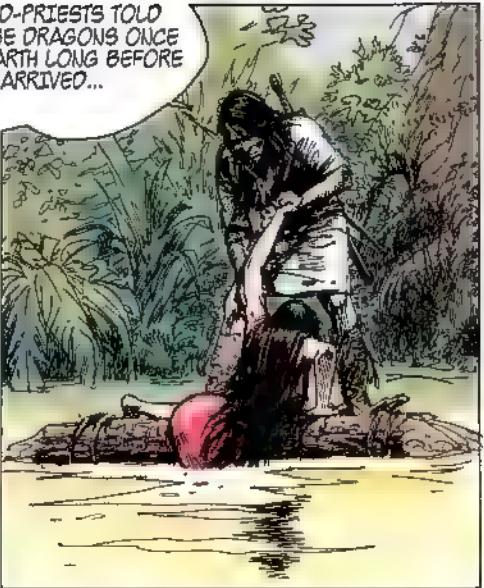




DO YOU...
THINK THAT THAT'S
WHAT THEY CALL
A DRAGON?

IT HAS
TO BE.

THE WIZARD-PRIESTS TOLD
US THAT THESE DRAGONS ONCE
RUINED THE EARTH LONG BEFORE
MAN ARRIVED...



WE'RE BEING PULLED THROUGH
TIME, TO THE FIRST AGES OF
EARTH!!



THE FIRST BIRDS...



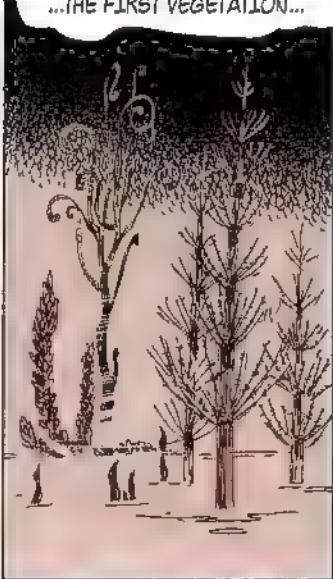
...THE FIRST LAND
CREATURES...



...THE FIRST FISH...



...THE FIRST VEGETATION...



...AND THEN, NOTHING! THE CUR-
RENT IS CARRYING US STRAIGHT
TOWARDS THE BIRTH
OF THE WORLD!!



LISTEN...
IT SOUNDS
LIKE THE CALL
OF A HORN...

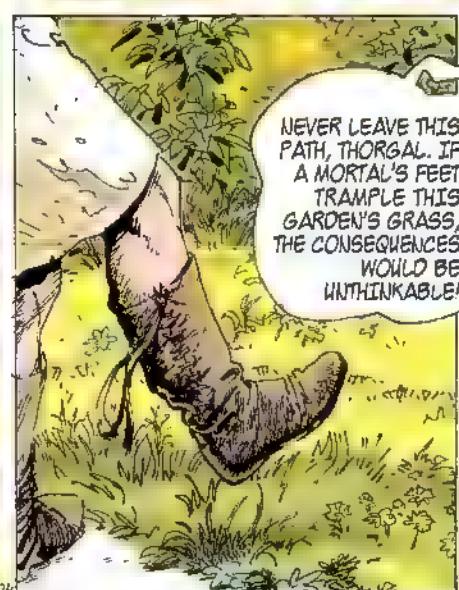
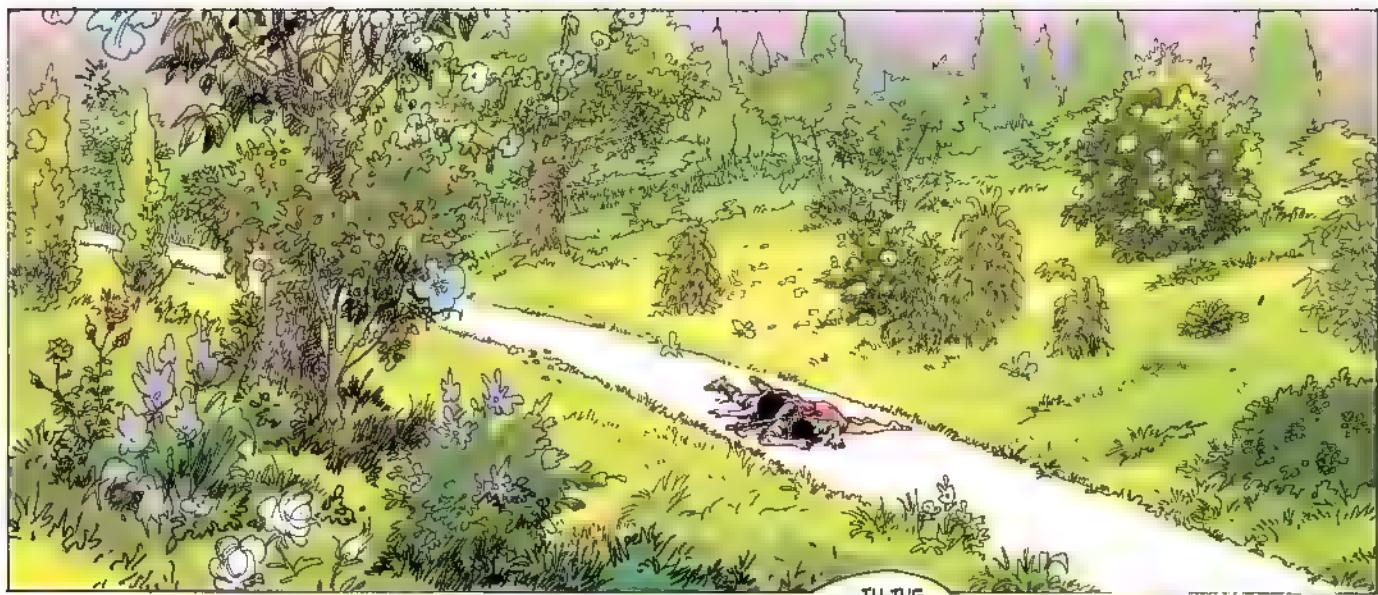
COULD IT BE?
YES... THE HORN OF
HIMDALL, GUARDIAN
OF THE CELESTIAL
BRIDGE THAT LEADS
TO THE HOME OF
THE GODS!...

AHEAD!
THE WATER!... ALL
THE WATER IS
DISAPPEARING
INTO AN
ABYSS!

FEAR NOTHING
AND HOLD ONTO
ME, SHANIAH.
WE'RE GOING
TO CROSS
INFINITY!



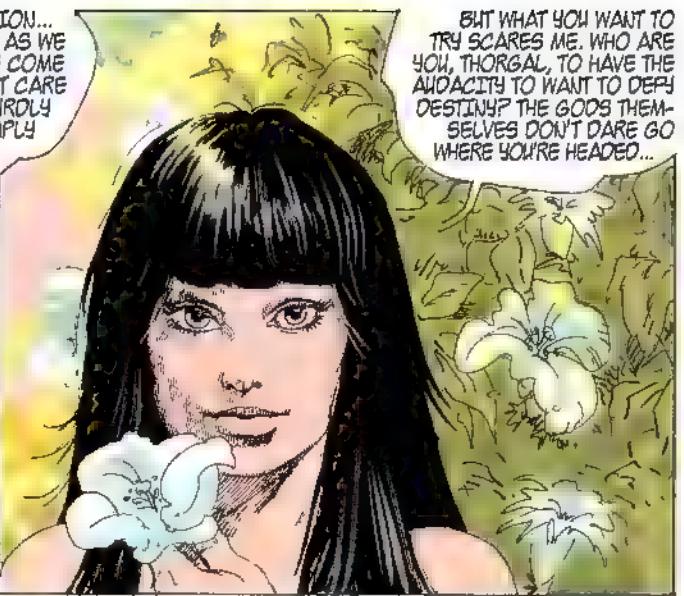
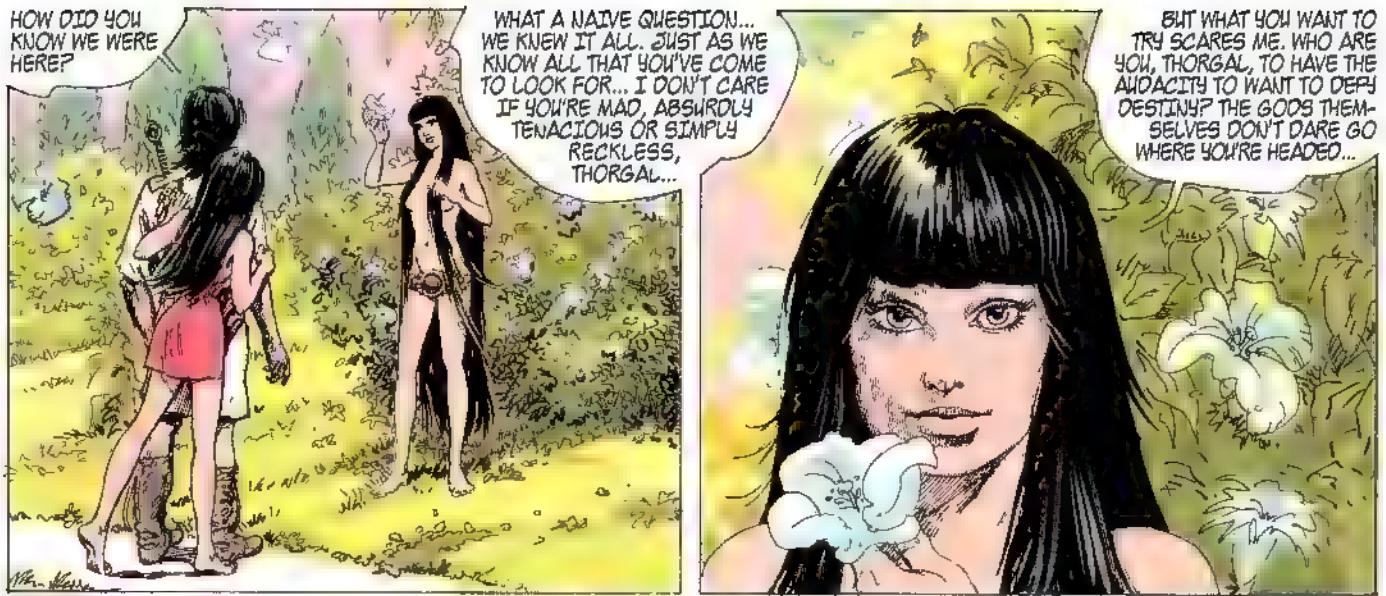


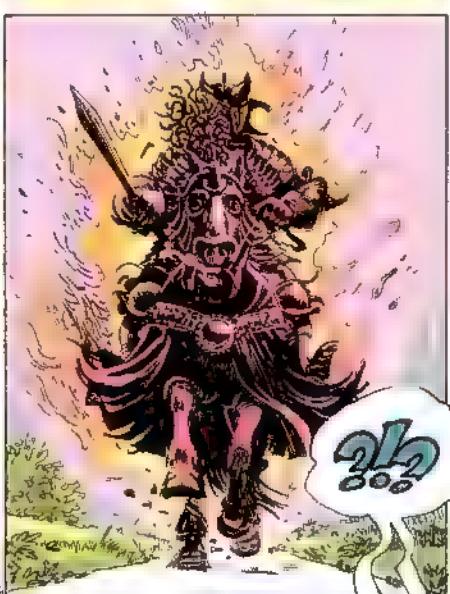
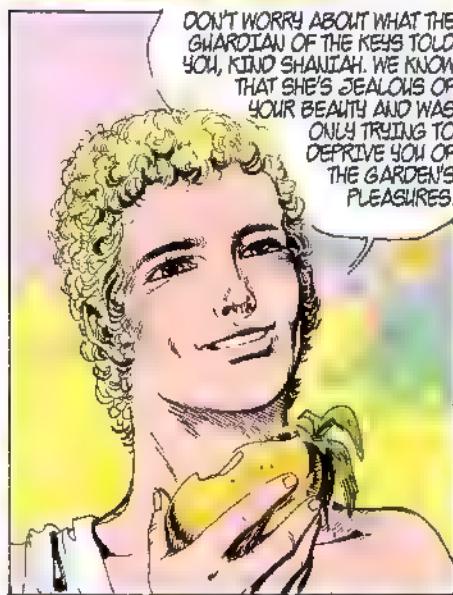
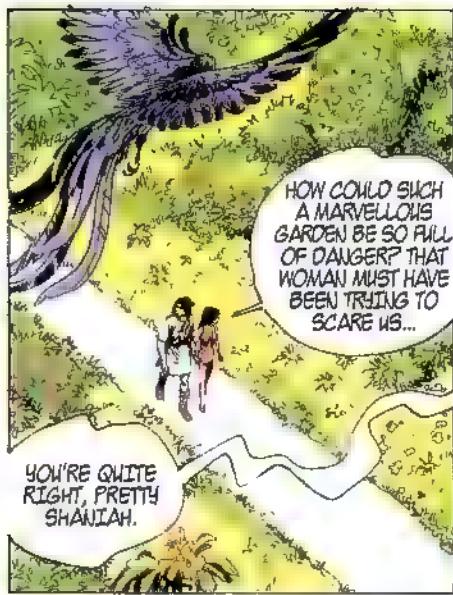


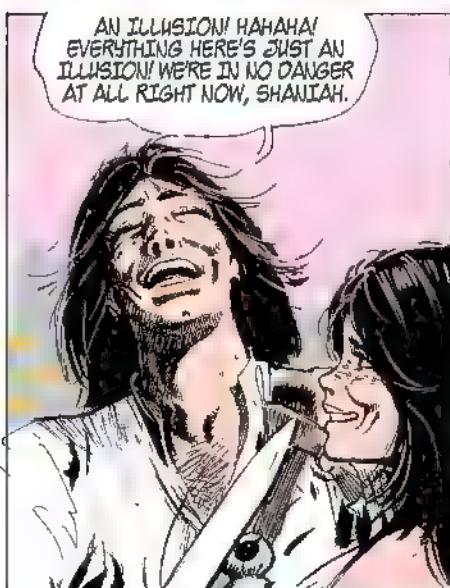
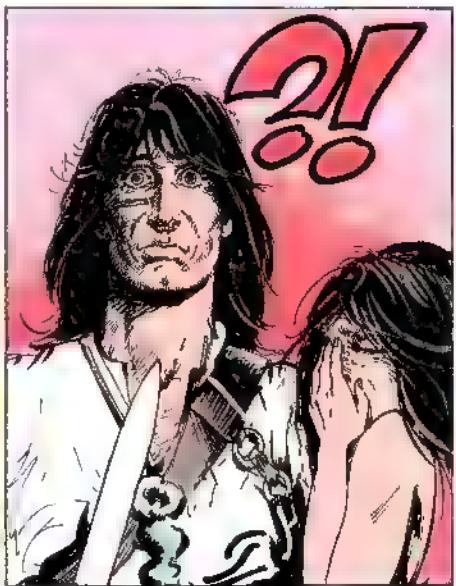
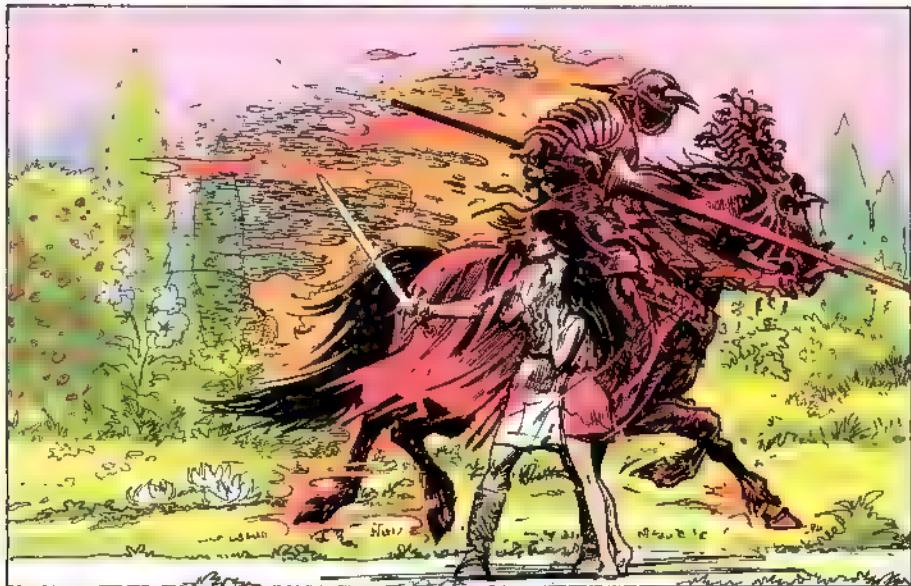
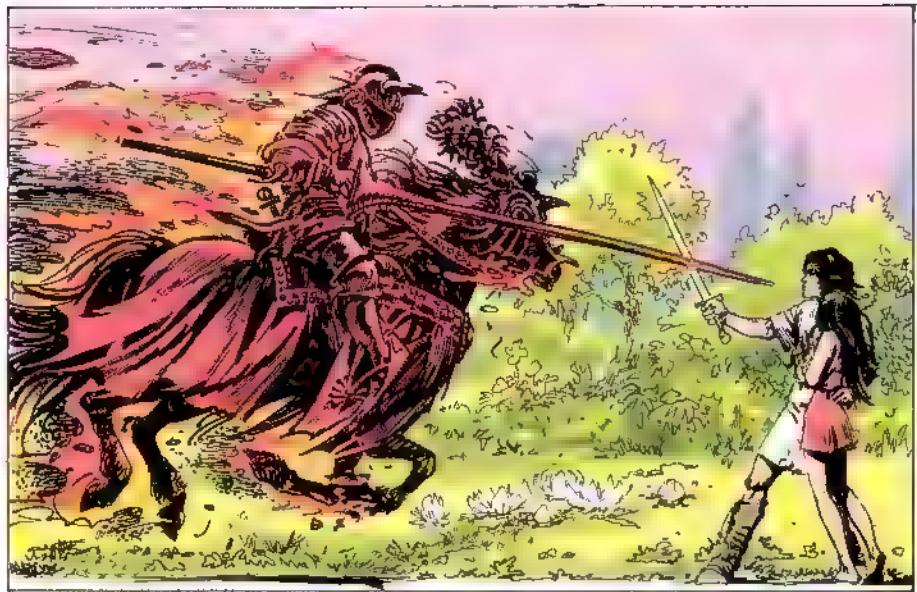
SO... WE'VE
REACHED
THE ..

NO! DON'T
COME NEAR
ME!

NEVER LEAVE THIS
PATH, THORGAL. IF
A MORTAL'S FEET
TRAMPLE THIS
GARDEN'S GRASS,
THE CONSEQUENCES
WOULD BE
UNTHINKABLE!

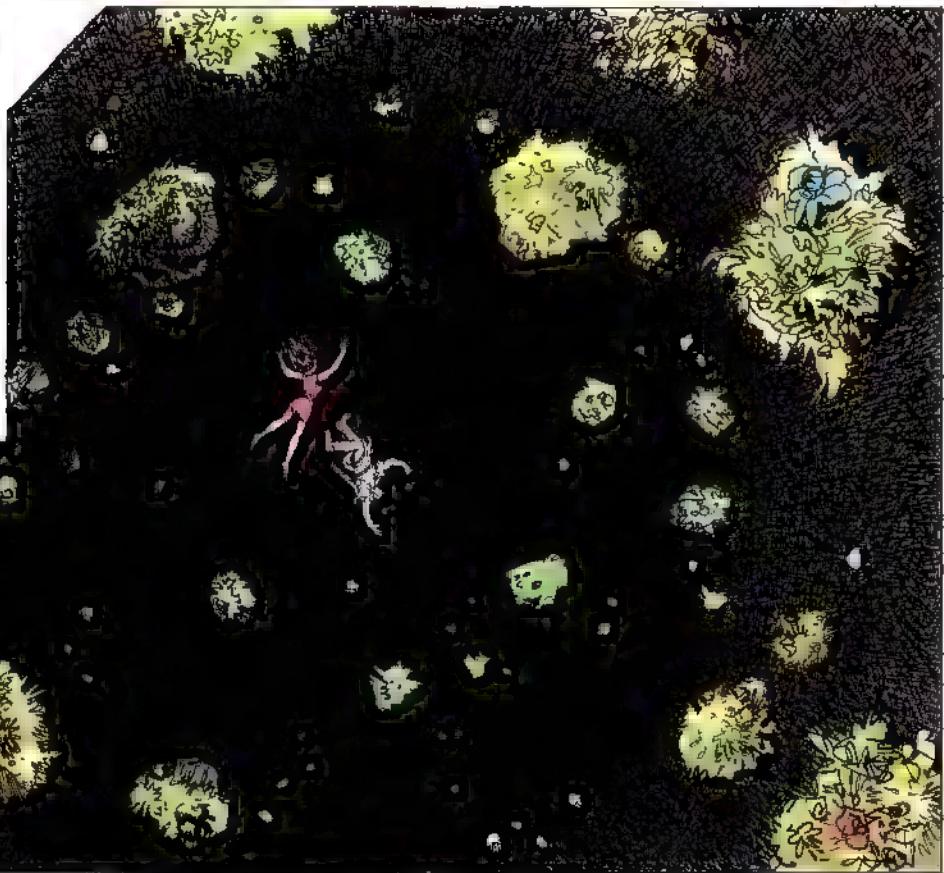














THORGAL, THESE
THREADS... THEY'RE
MOVING AS IF... AS IF
THEY'RE... ALIVE!...

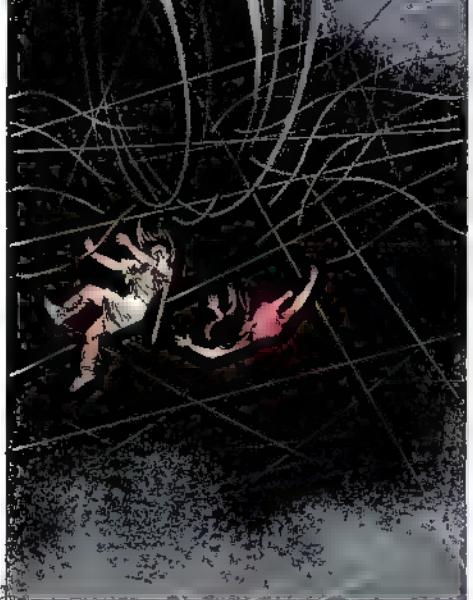
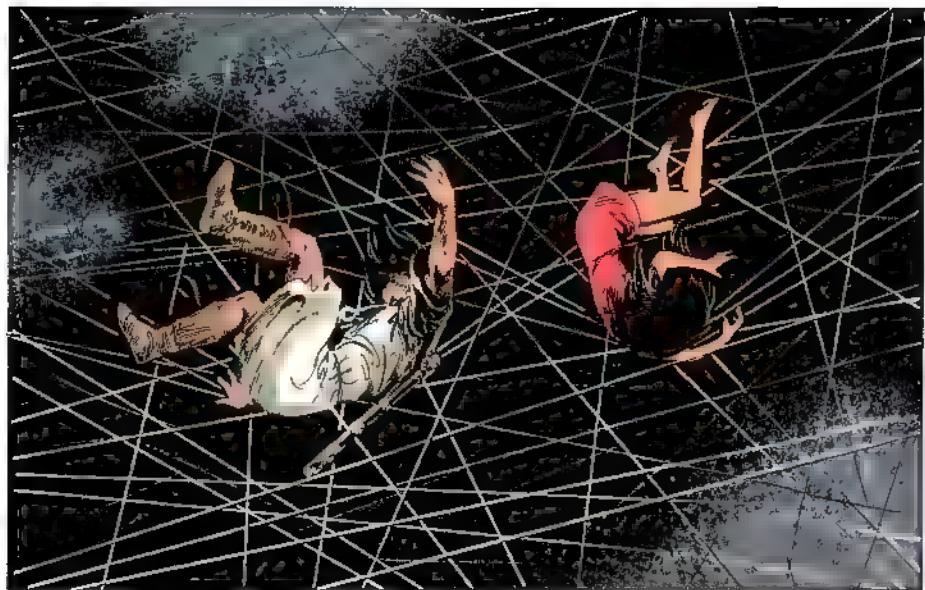
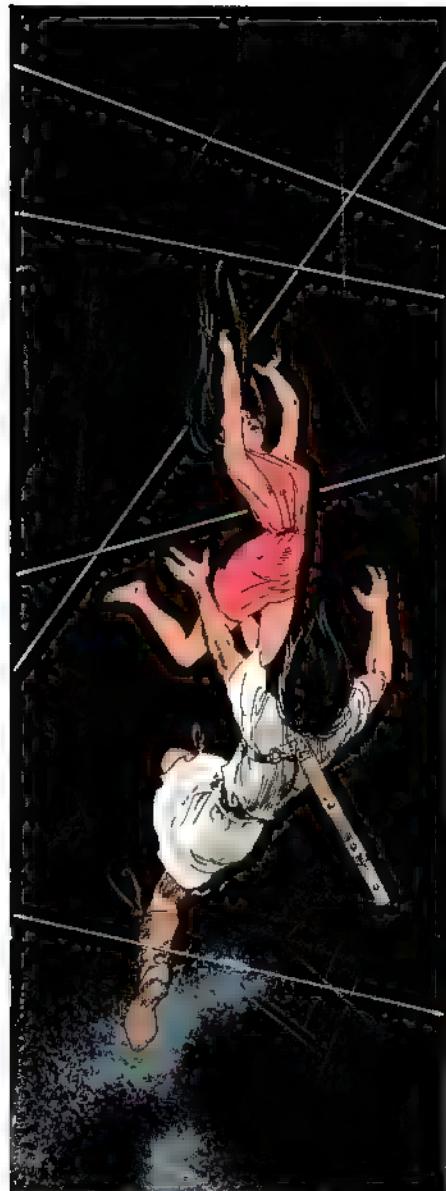
WHAT'S GOING
TO HAPPEN TO
US, THORGAL?
I THINK THAT... I'M
SO HORRIBLY
SCARED...

ME TOO,
SHANILAH.
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S IN STORE
FOR US IN THIS
STRANGE
PLACE...



NO, HUSH NOW
JUST LEAVE
THE SOFTNESS
OF YOUR HAND
ON MY...









YES, THORGAL, YOU'VE FINALLY REACHED YOUR GOAL. I AM THE ONE YOU WANTED TO MEET... THE ONE WITH NO NAME, BECAUSE I'M GIVEN TOO MANY LIFE... DEATH... MISFORTUNE... DESTINY...

I'M NOT HERE TO WELCOME YOU, THORGAL AEGIRSSON. NOBODY, NEITHER GOD NOR MAN, IS WELCOME HERE.



DESTINY! HAHAHA! AS IF MORTALS COULD HAVE A DESTINY! HAHAHA! IT'S THE BIGGEST TRICK OF ALL CREATION!...



EVEN HERE, WHERE THE FINAL MOMENTS MEET THE BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING, EVEN HERE THERE'S ONLY FORTUNE'S TOYS IN A NEVER-CHANGING DANCE CHOREOGRAPHED BY THE VOID, HAHAHA!



AND YOU, YOU CAME TO ASK ME FOR A LIFE? ONE SOLE, PATHETIC LIFE?!... THAT'S PRETTY FUNNY!

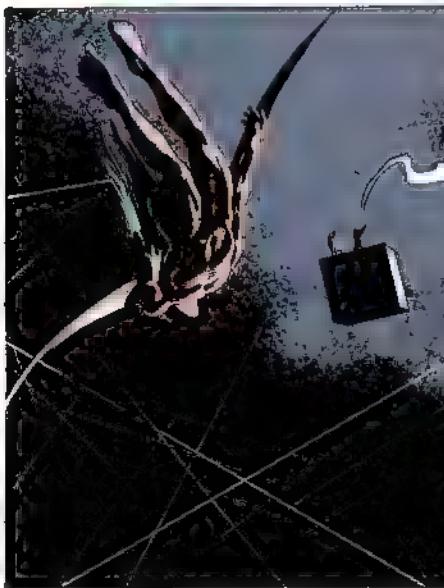


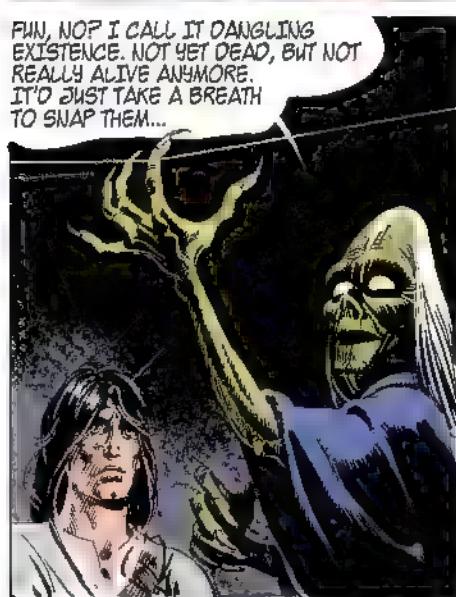
WHILE I REIGN OVER THE EXISTENCE OF ALL HUMANITY!!

WHAT'S A LIFE TO ME?... NOTHING.
A THREAD ROLLING FROM NOWHERE,
GOING NOWHERE, LOST
IN THE MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS
OF OTHER IDENTICAL THREADS,
BUT OF WHICH THE OWNER
BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE
THE CENTRE OF THE
UNIVERSE.

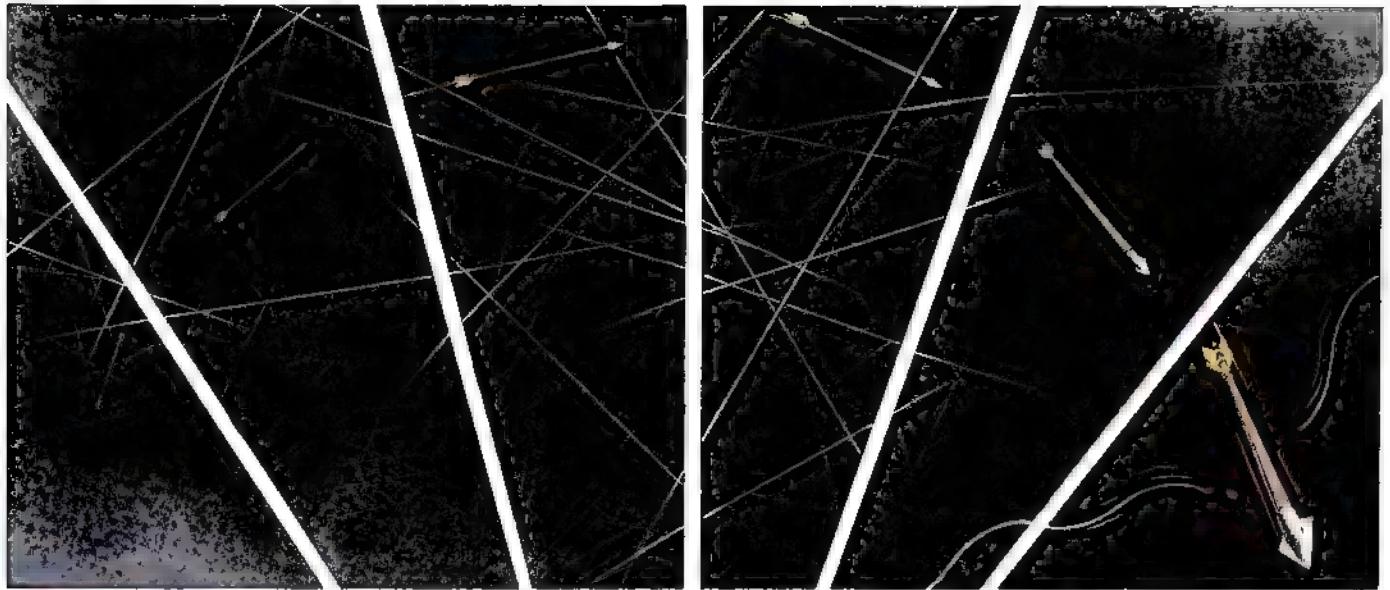
IS IT AN OLD MAN OR A
CHILD? A STUNNING YOUNG
PRINCESS OR A POOR
UNDERFEED PEASANT? A
KING OR A BEGGAR?

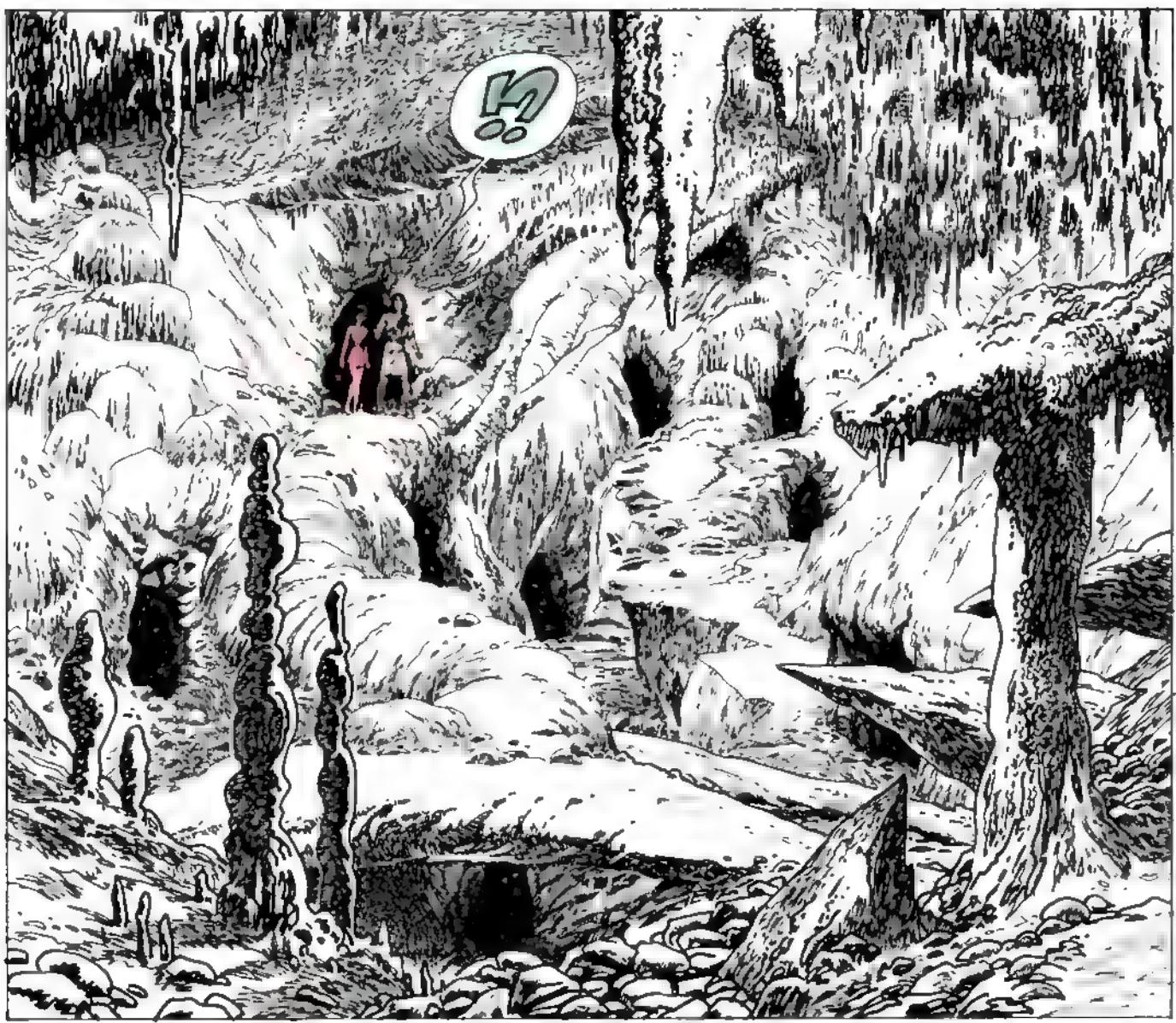
DOESN'T MATTER...









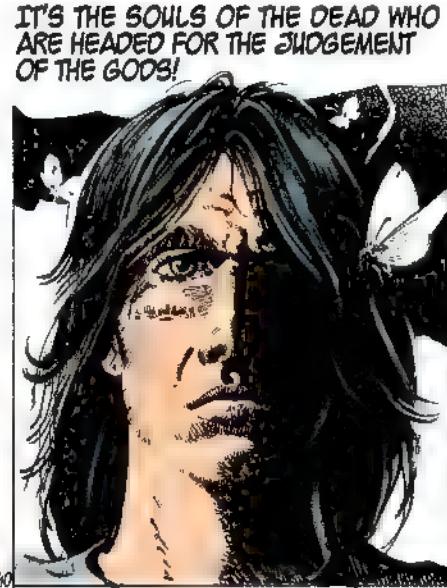


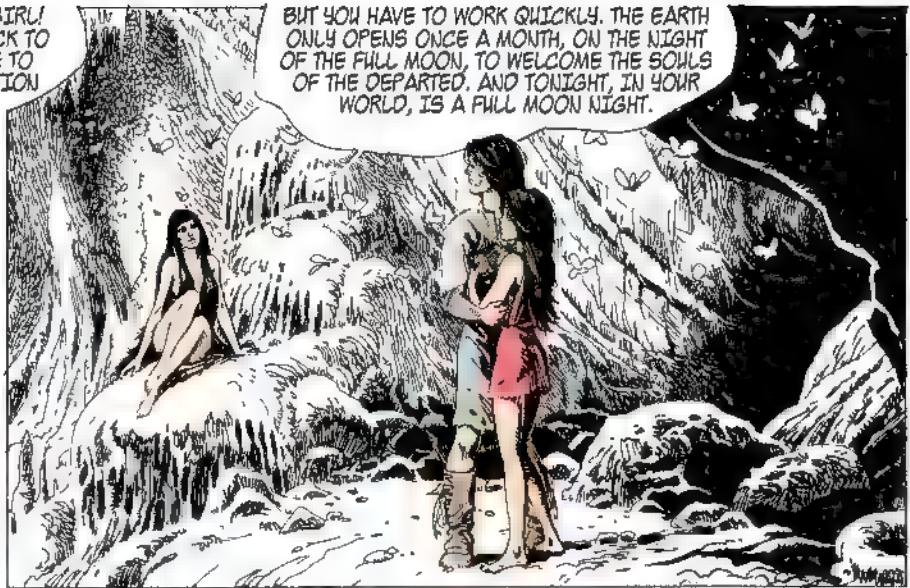
THAT'S THE THIRD TIME WE'VE COME OUT IN THE SAME PLACE. WE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF THIS CURSED LABYRINTH! ..

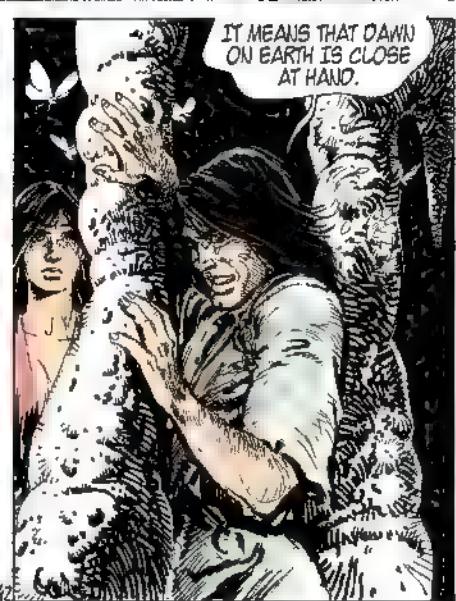
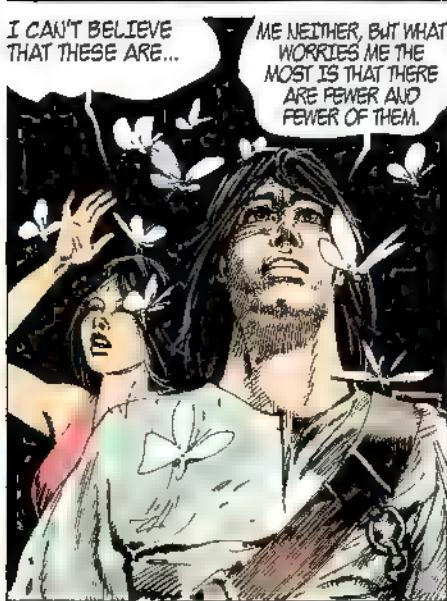
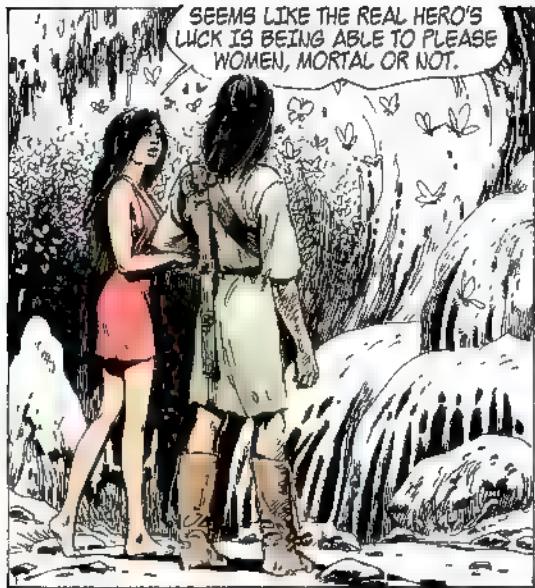


NO! I DON'T THINK WHAT YOU DID WAS RIGHT, BUT AT LEAST YOU HAD THE COURAGE TO DO IT FOR ME, SHANIAH. AND THANKS TO YOU, AARICIA HAS BEEN SAVED

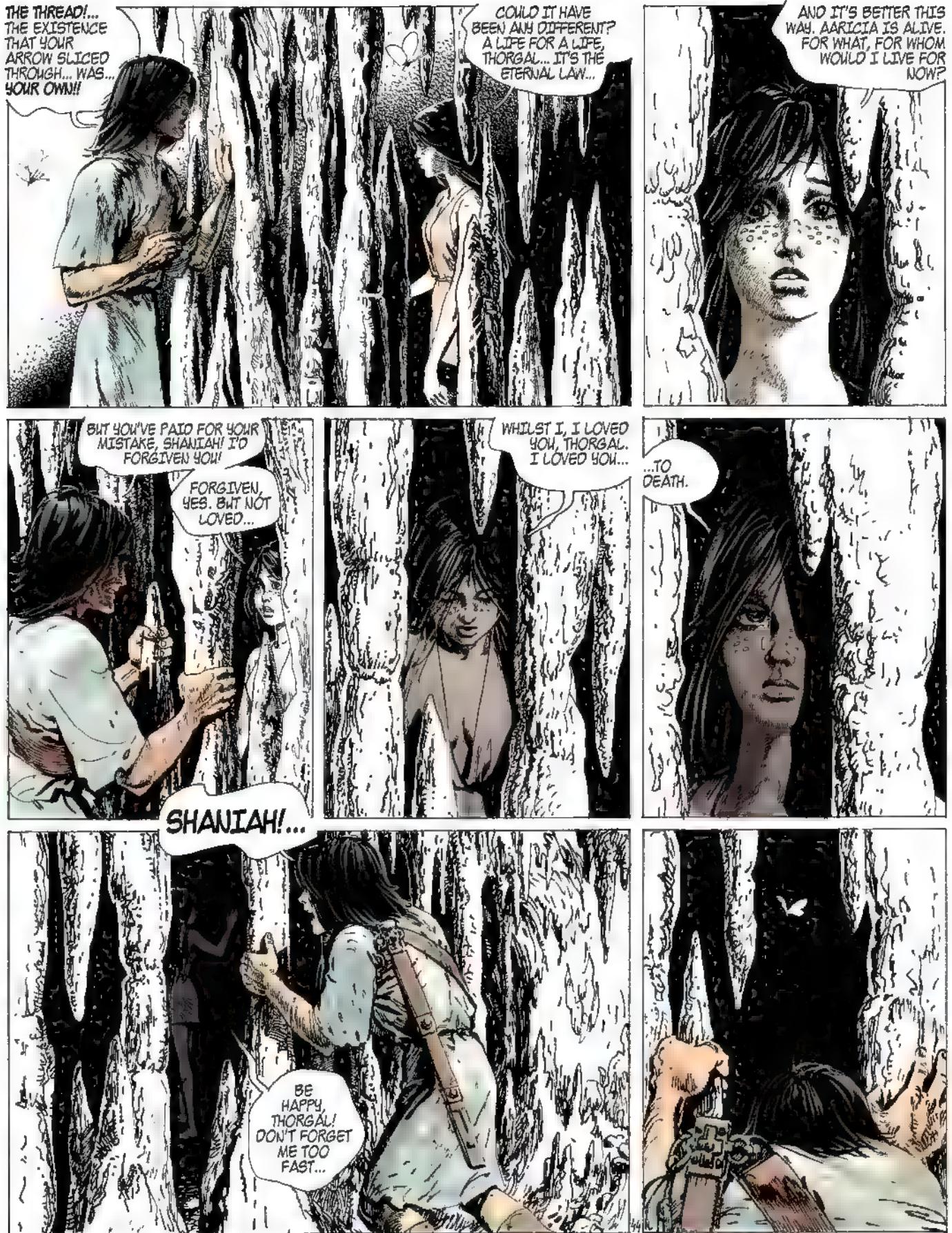


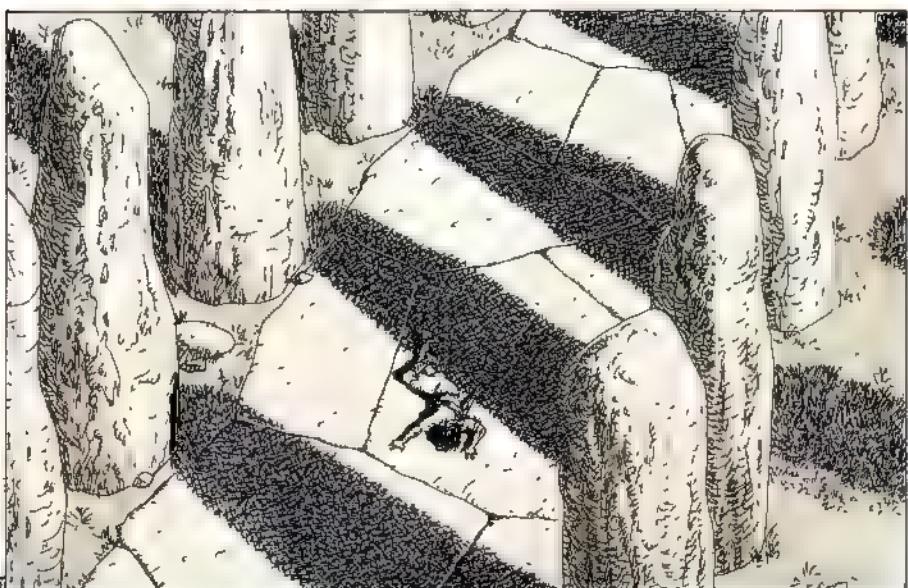


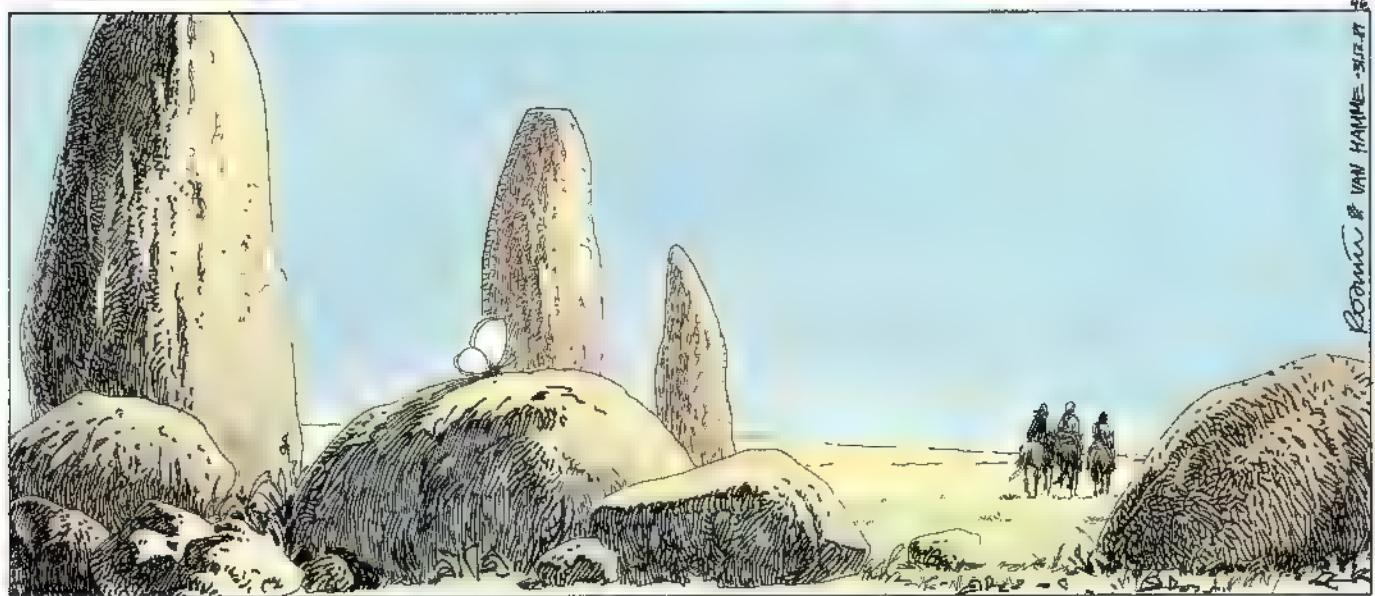










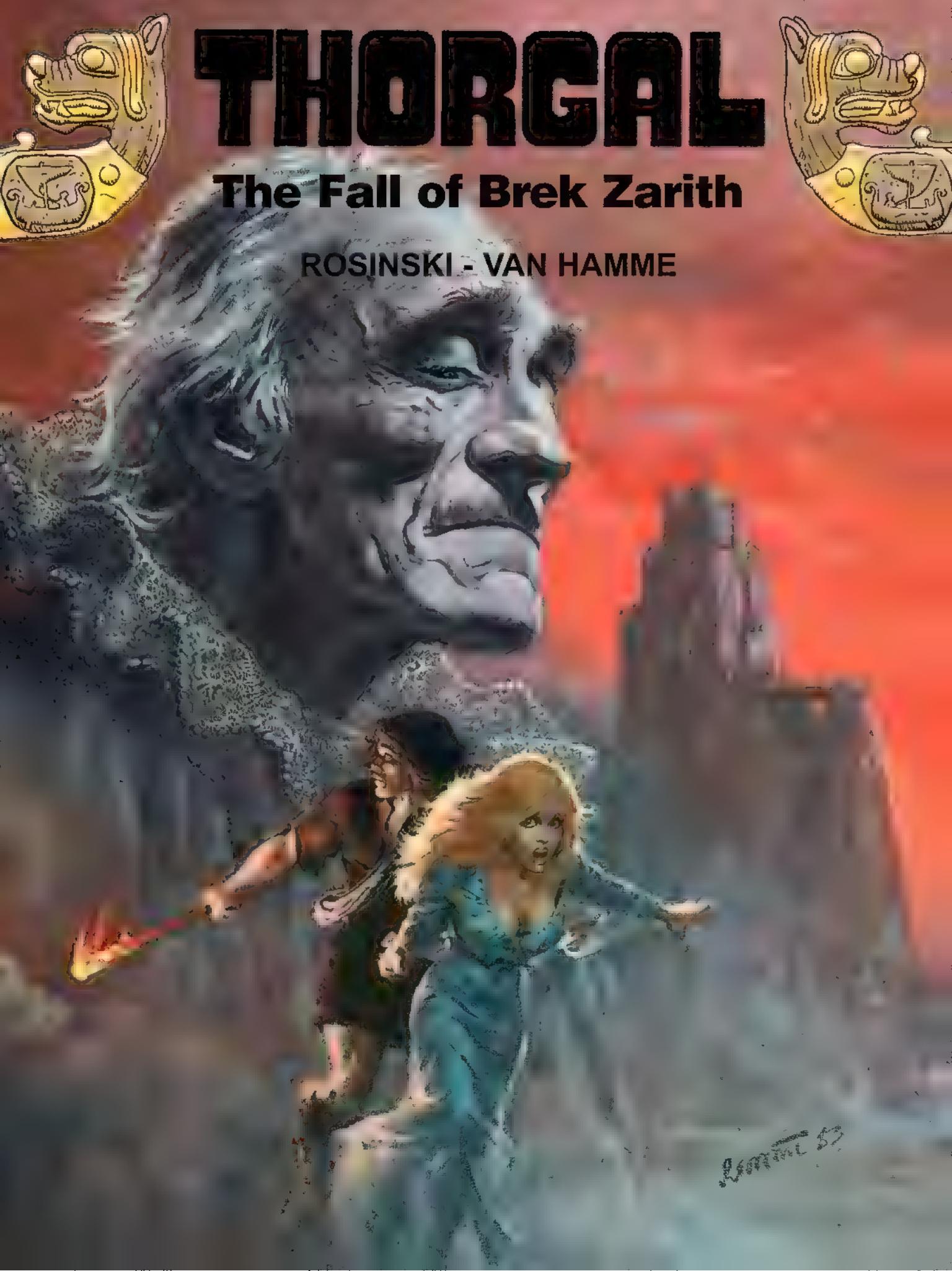


THE END

THORGAL

The Fall of Brek Zarith

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME

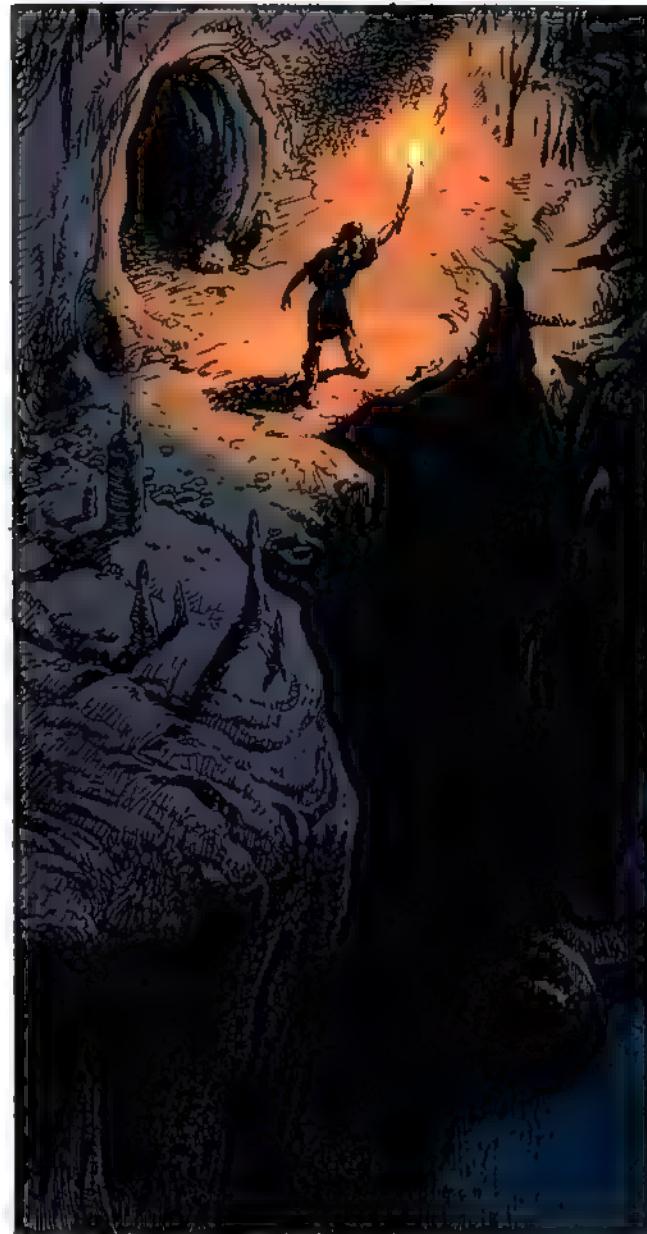


LEADER 50

ROSINSKI-VAN HAMME

THORGAL

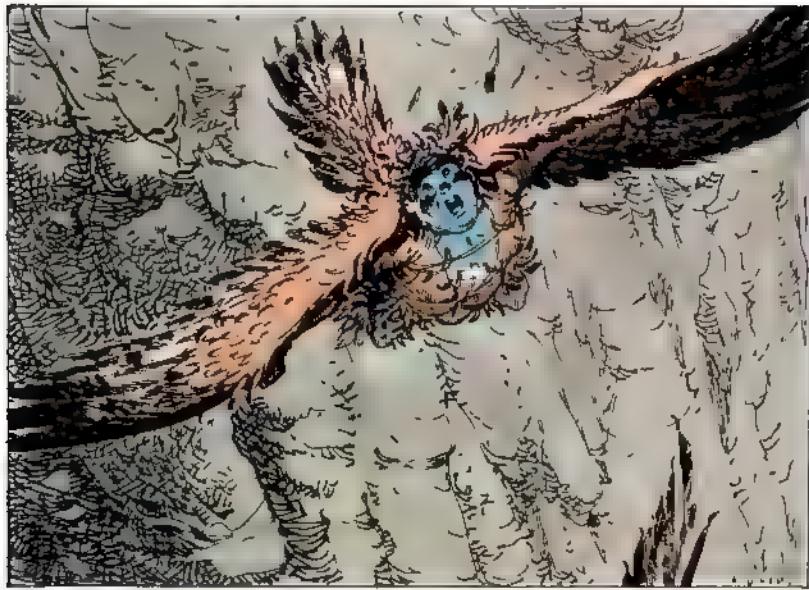
The Fall of Brek Zarith



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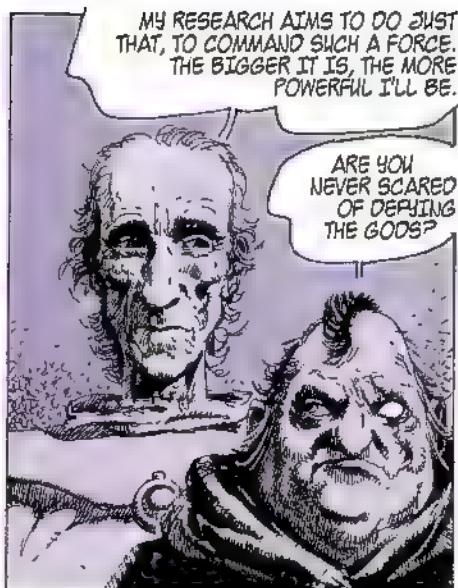


I PUT HIM TO SLEEP, MASTER, BUT... I'LL ADMIT THAT THE FORCE OF THE SPIRITS INHABITING A BODY AS YOUNG AS THIS IS SLIGHTLY WIMPERING. I'M NOT SURE IF I CAN STILL CONTROL THEM...



MY RESEARCH AIDS TO DO JUST THAT, TO COMMAND SUCH A FORCE. THE BIGGER IT IS, THE MORE POWERFUL I'LL BE.

ARE YOU NEVER SCARED OF DEFYING THE GODS?



I'VE SEEN TOO MUCH AND I'M TOO OLD TO BE AFRAID OF ANYTHING, HELGITH. YOU MAY BEGIN—I'M READY.



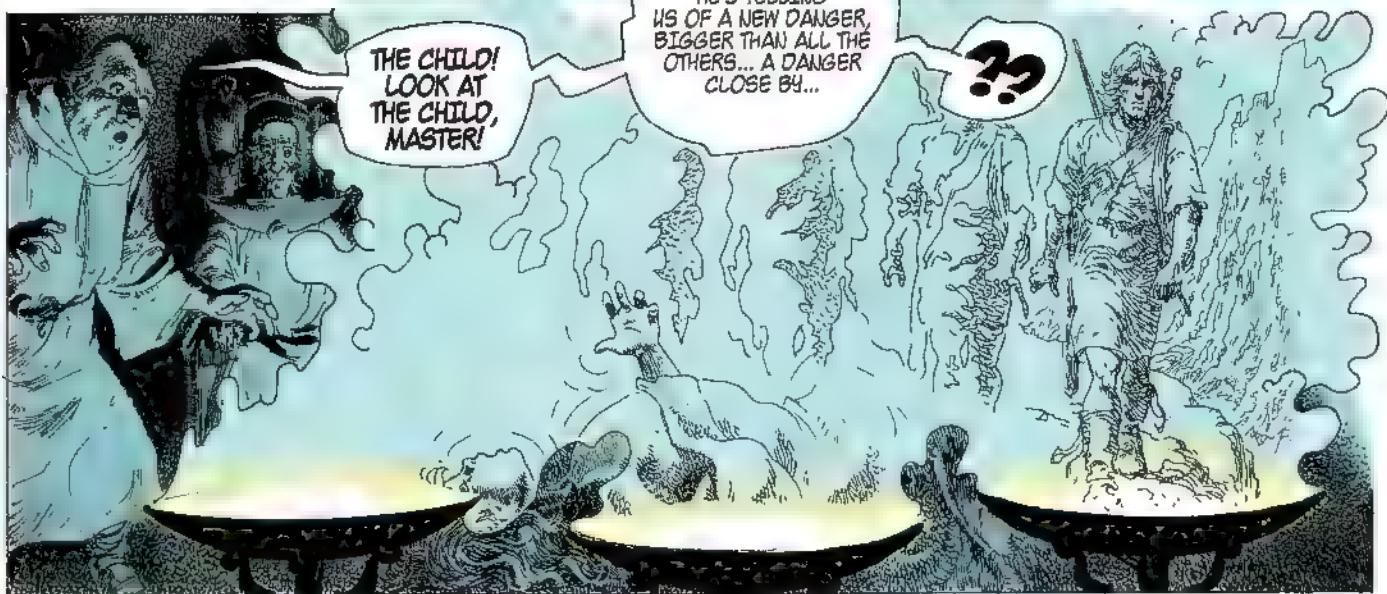
ARN BRAZ DAWIN DEMATUR JAWAL!
ARN BRAZ DAWIN DEMATUR RAGAN!
ARN BRAZ DAWIN GALESQ QUASHAR!

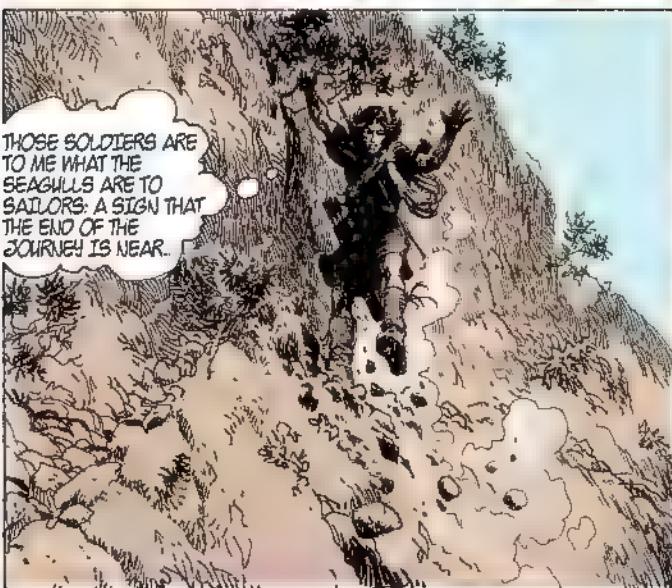
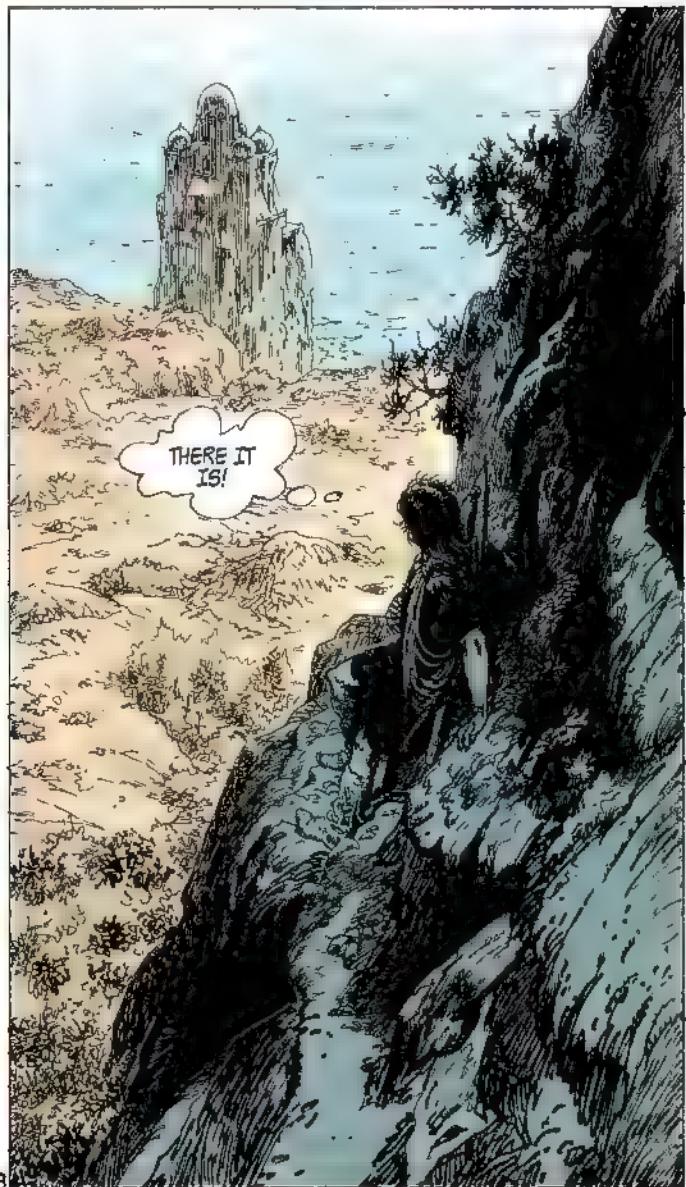
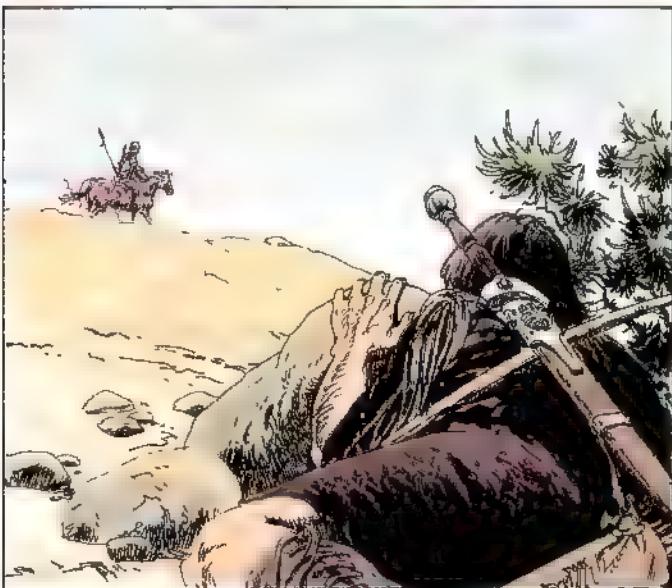
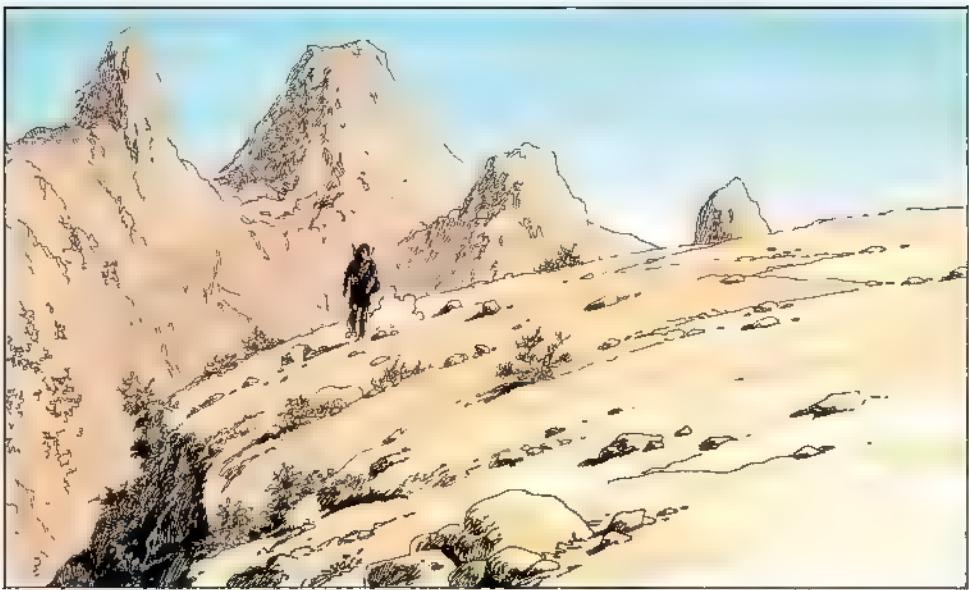


THINK ABOUT YOUR ENEMIES, MASTER! SUMMON EVERYTHING THAT'S HOSTILE TO YOU! THINK ABOUT THE WRETCHES, KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, WHO DARE TO THREATEN THE GREATNESS OF SHARDAR THE ALMIGHTY, KING OF BREZARTH AND OTHER LANDS BEYOND THE OCEAN...





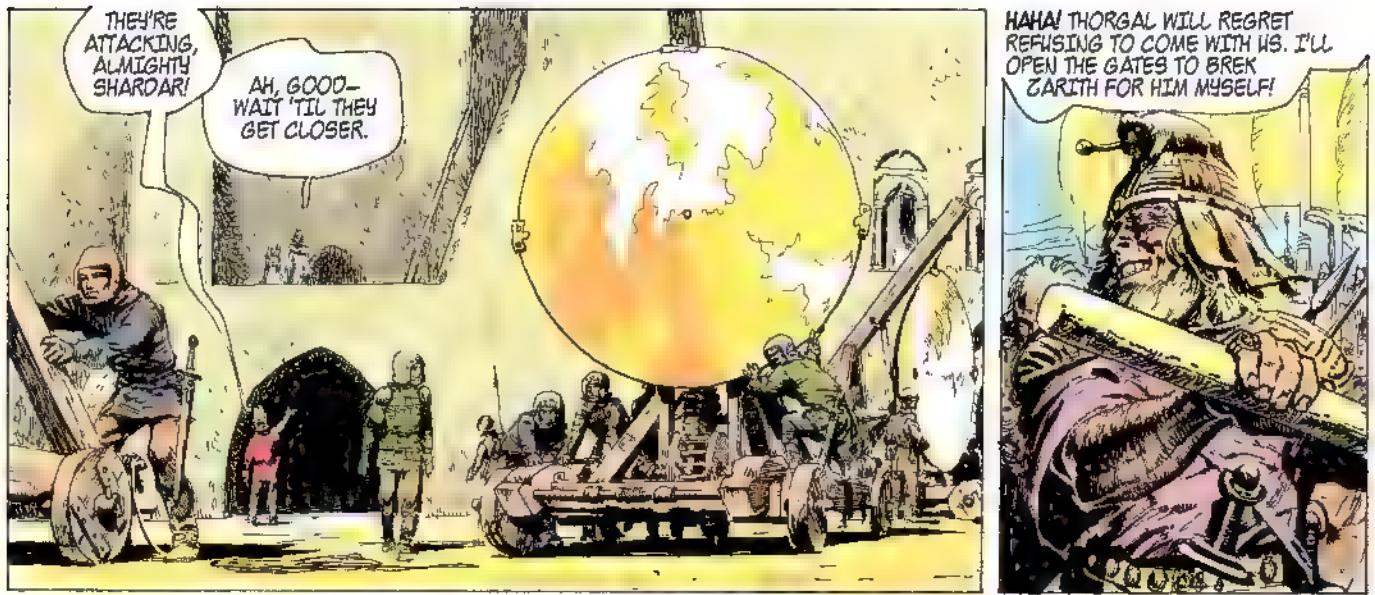


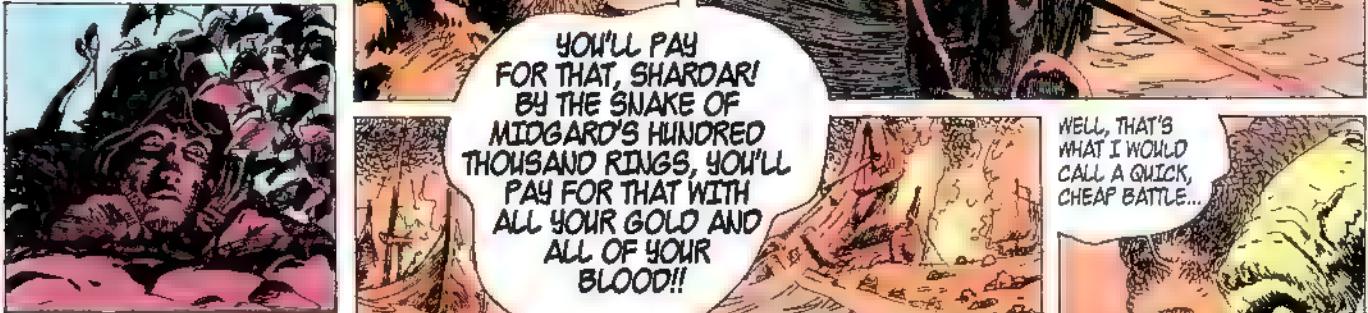
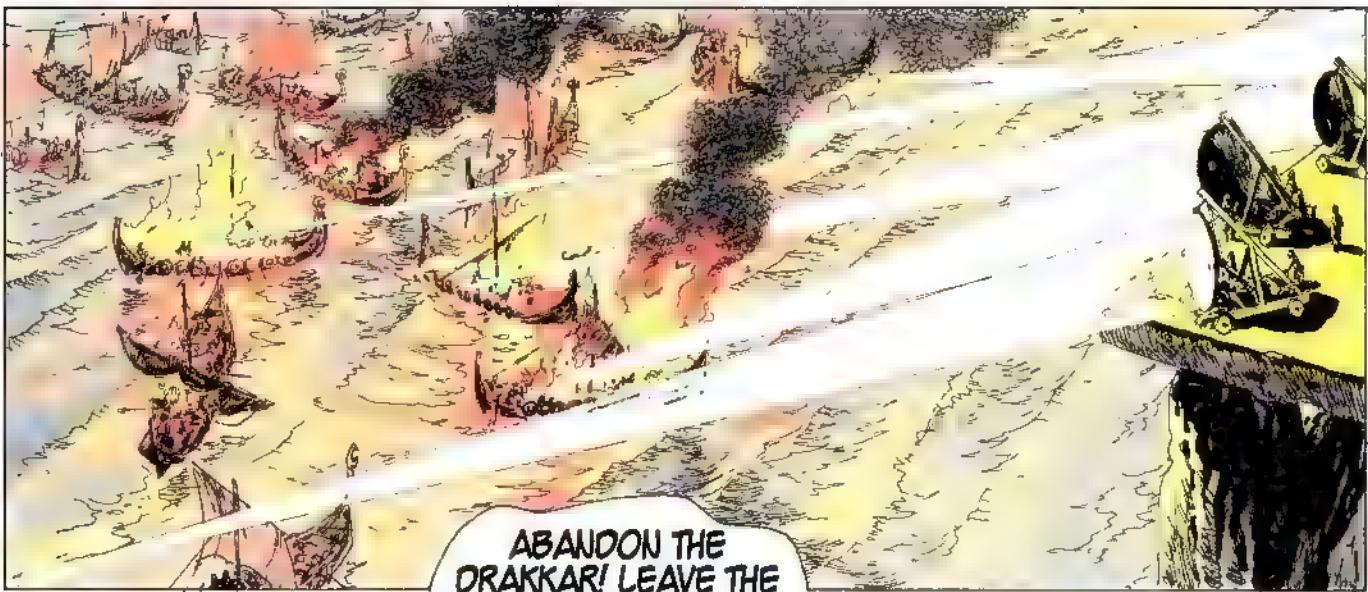


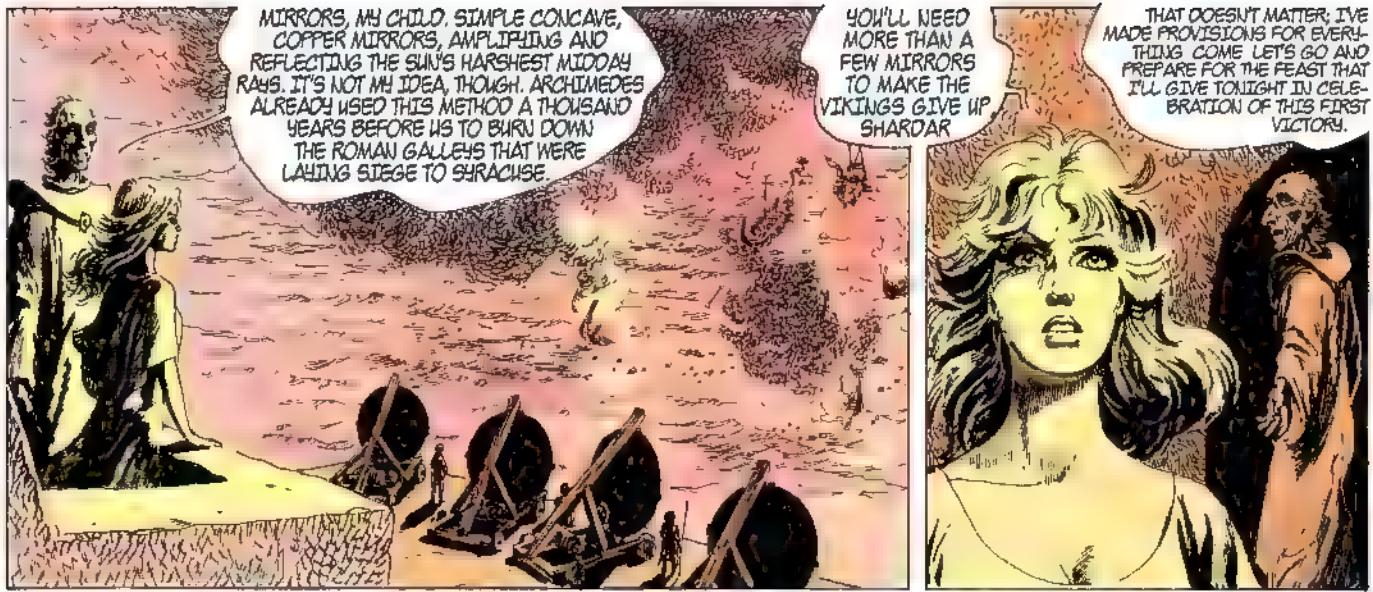


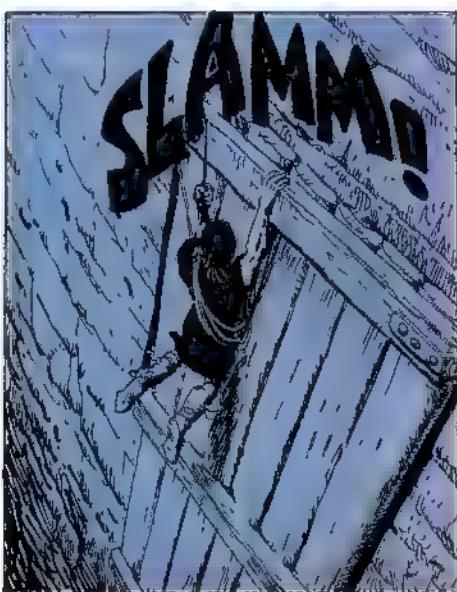
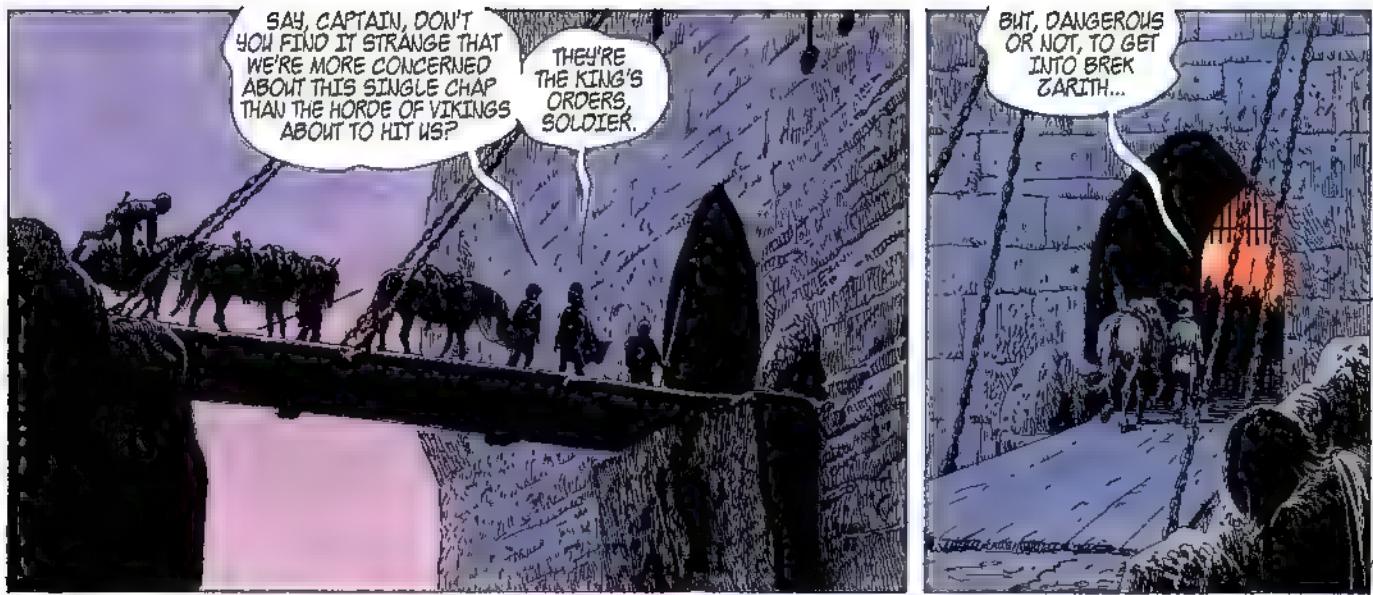


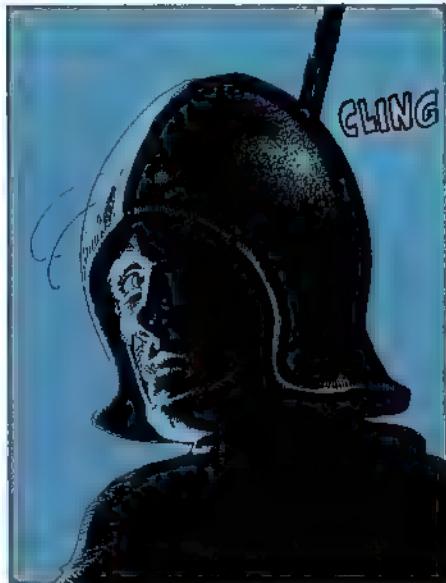
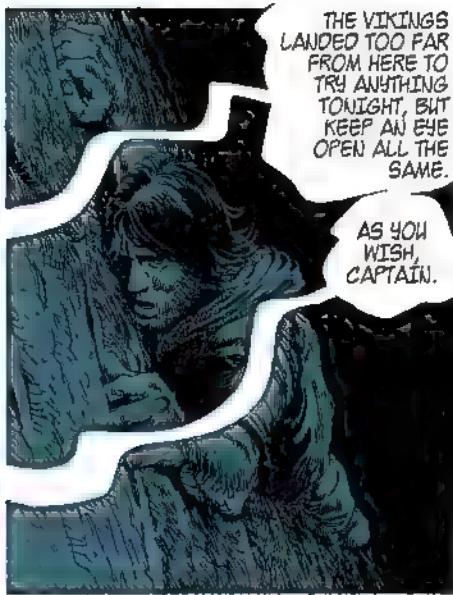


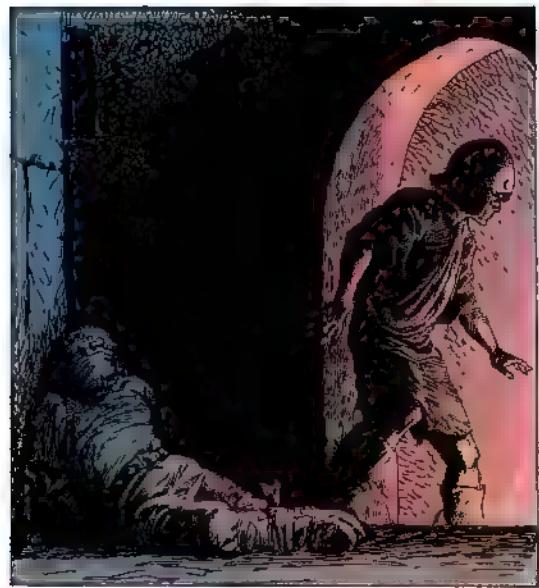










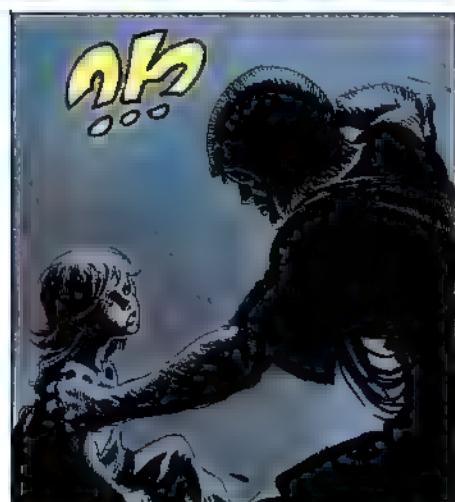


AS SOON AS WE MAKE A MOVE, YOU'LL POST YOUR MEN AT EVERY EXIT TO THE FEASTING HALL...

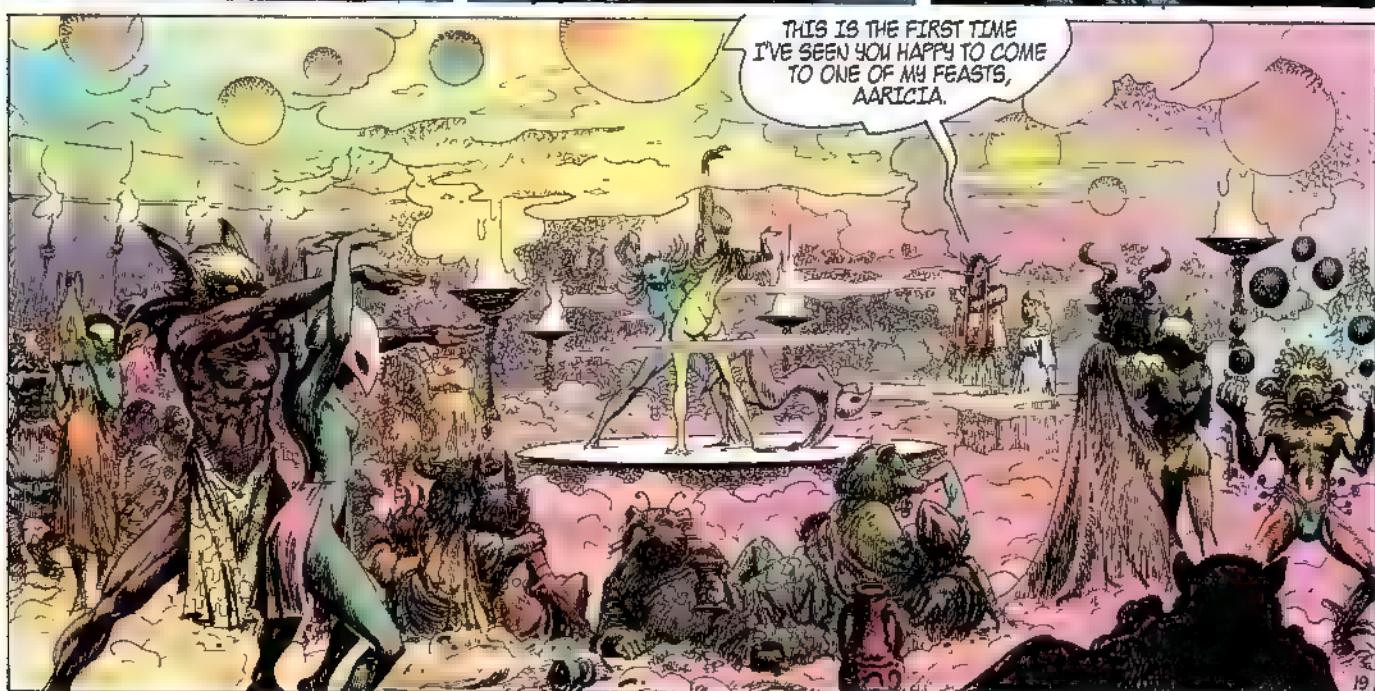
I WILL DO SO, BARON FALSTER.

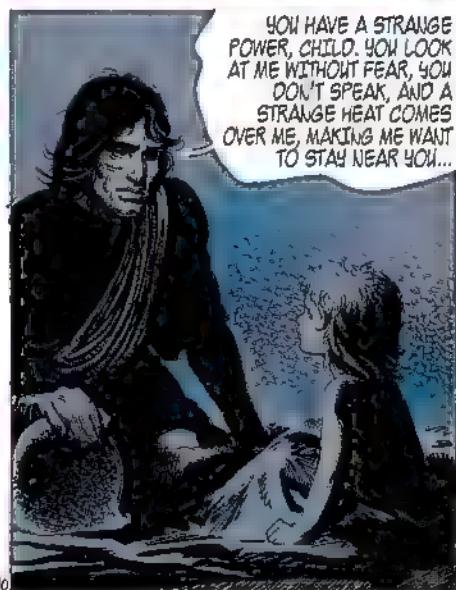
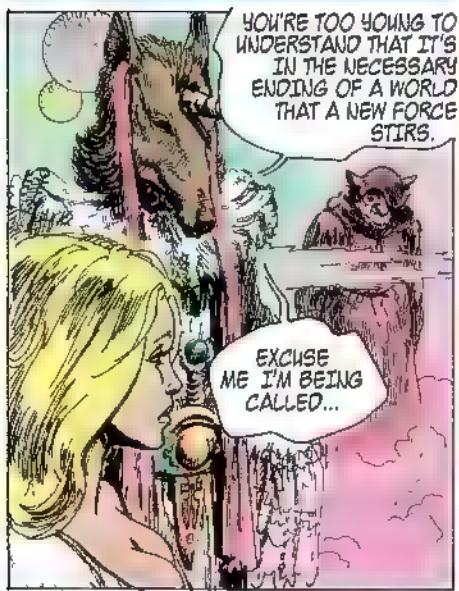


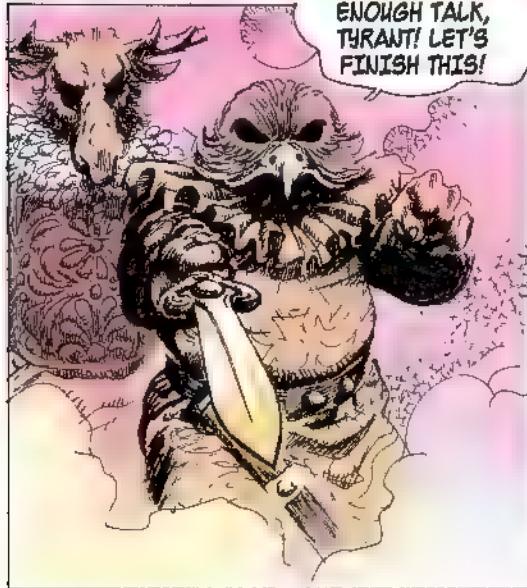
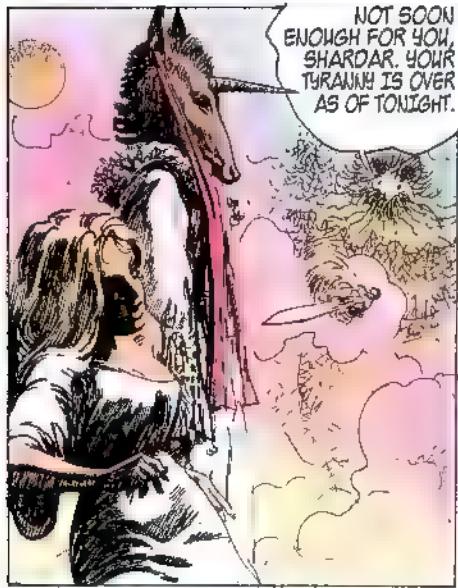
HUH?... THERE'S SOMEONE IN THIS ROOM...



THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU HAPPY TO COME TO ONE OF MY FEASTS, AARICIA.





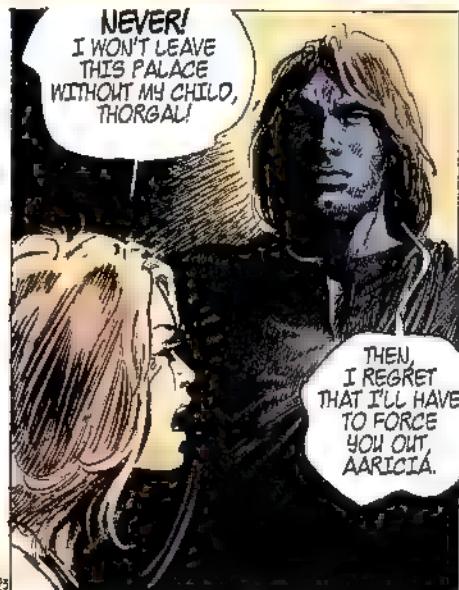




WE'LL KISS LATER, MY LOVE.
THE MOST URGENT THING
RIGHT NOW IS TO GET
AWAY FROM THIS
CURSED PLACE.



WE CAN'T WAIT
HERE ANY LONGER,
AARICIA. WE'LL
GET CAUGHT.
SHARDAR WON'T
HURT JOLAN. I'LL
FIND A WAY TO
COME BACK AND
GET HIM LATER...



STAYING HERE WOULD BE AS DANGEROUS FOR YOU AS FOR ME. IN JUST A FEW HOURS, BREK GARITH WILL BE UNDER ATTACK BY GALATHORN AND THE VIKINGS WHOSE SUPPORT I GARNERED FOR HIM...

...AND IT'S BY NO MEANS CERTAIN THAT JORUNO'S ALLIES WOULD RECOGNISE GANDALF THE MAD'S DAUGHTER AS ONE OF THEIRS. THAT'S WHY I WANT TO PUT YOU SOMEWHERE SAF...

OW!

FORGIVE ME, MY LOVE, BUT YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND... PERHAPS YOU COULDN'T UNDERSTAND....

WELL DONE, AARICIA: YOU DID WHAT YOU HAD TO DO.

OH! JOLAN...

SO THIS IS THE MAN... THE WHEELS OF DESTINY ARE SOMETIMES QUITE STRANGE.

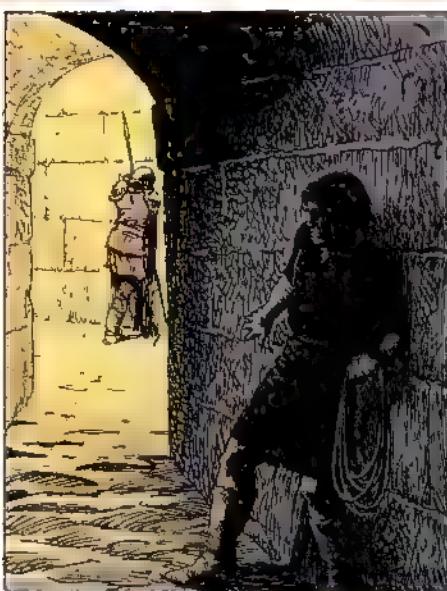
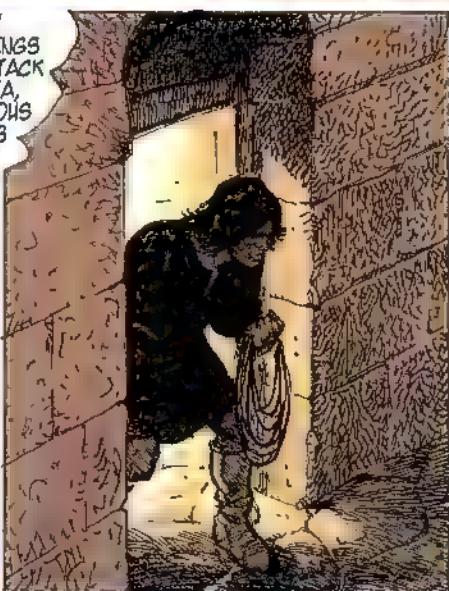
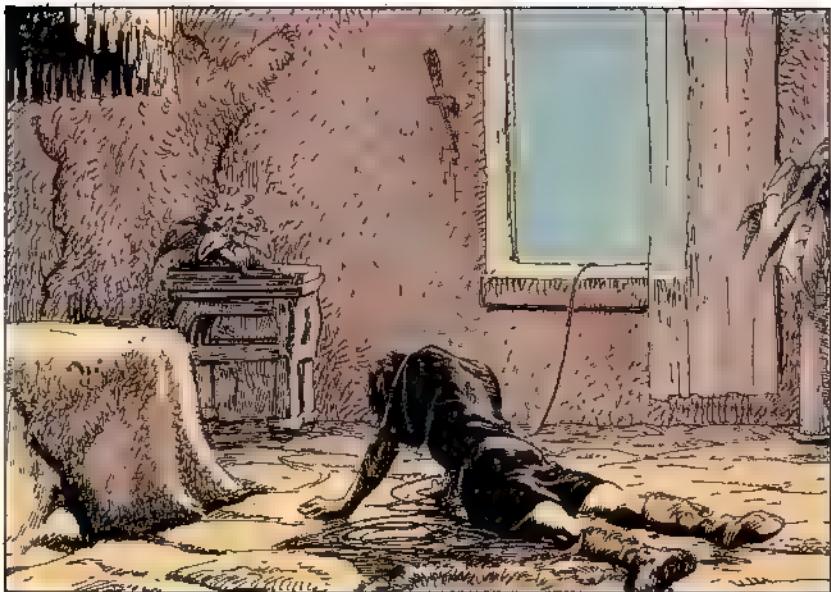
SPARE HIM, SHARDAR, I BEG OF YOU. I... I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

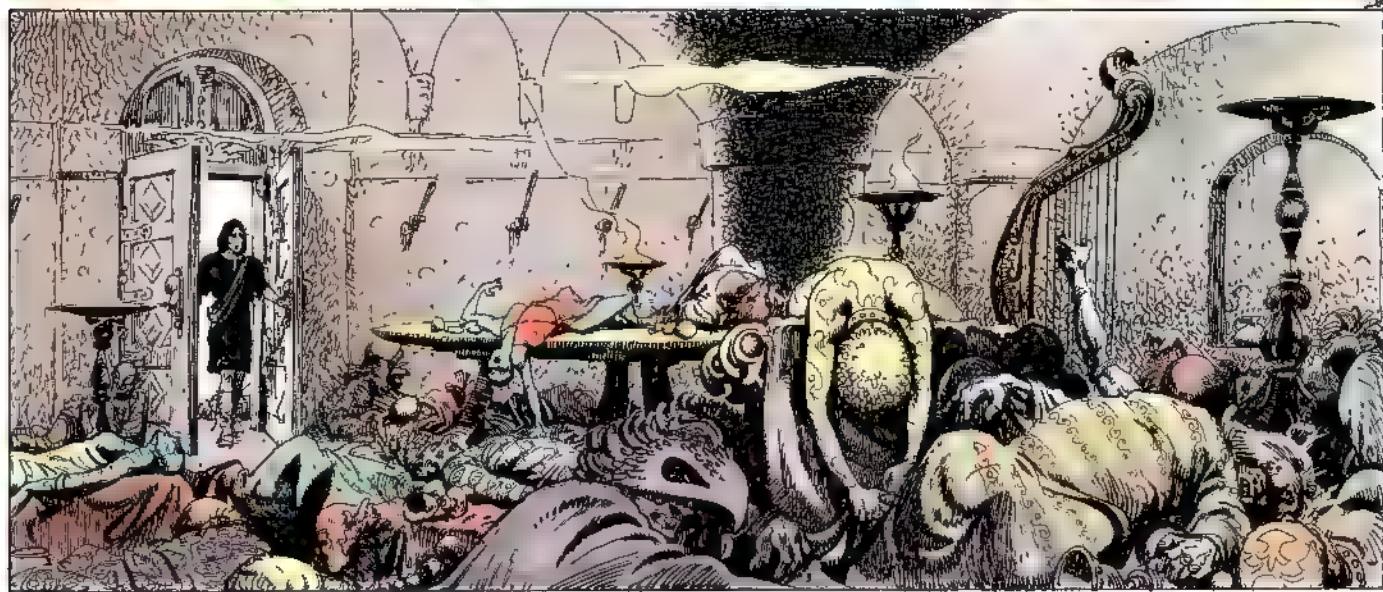
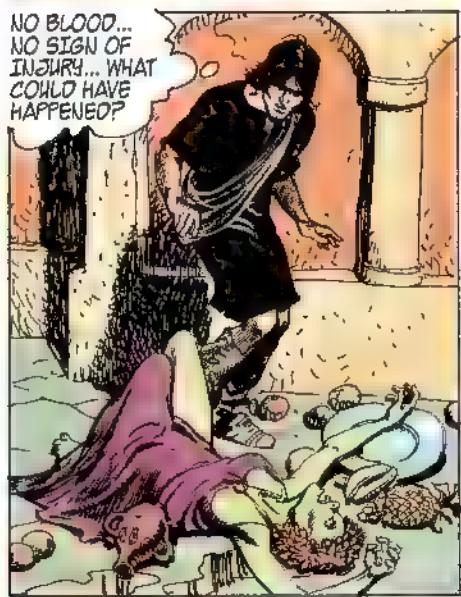
YOUR THORGAL IS VERY LUCKY TO BE LOVED SO MUCH... ALL RIGHT, I ACCEPT. FOLLOW US.

LET ME AT LEAST PUT HIM SOMEWHERE SAFE. THE FIGHTING...

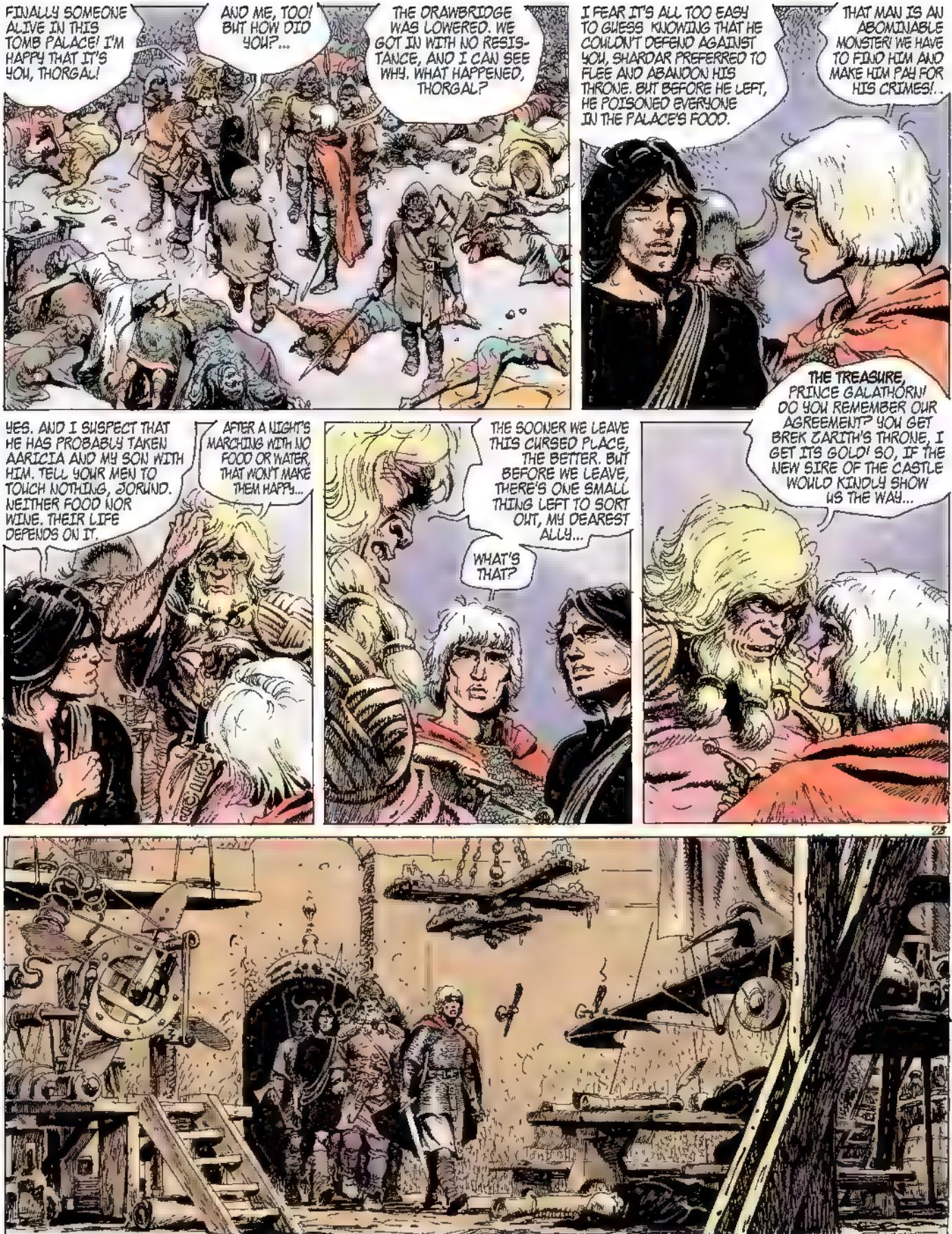
WHAT FIGHTING? DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOURSELF THAT THE FEW MEN LEFT WERE INCAPABLE? THERE WON'T BE ANY FIGHTING, MY PRETTY CHILD. GALATHORN IS COMING TO GET HIS KINGDOM! WELL, THEN, I'LL GIVE IT TO HIM! HAHAHA!

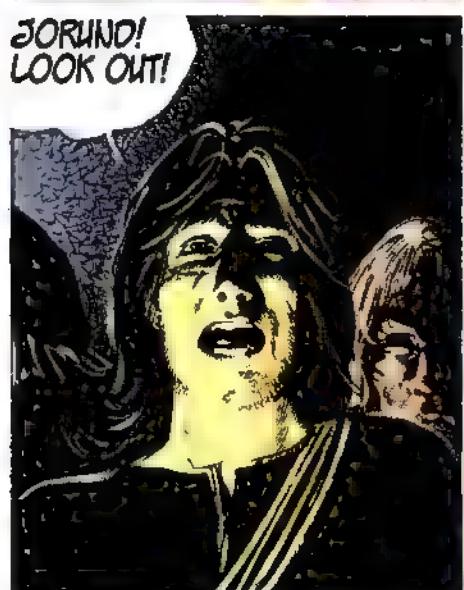
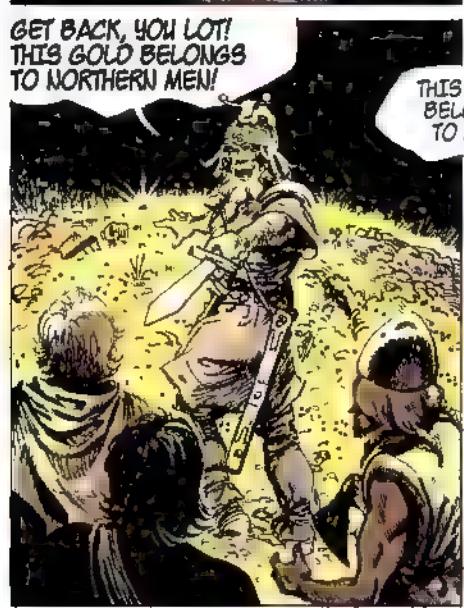
RODRIGUEZ VAN HAMME

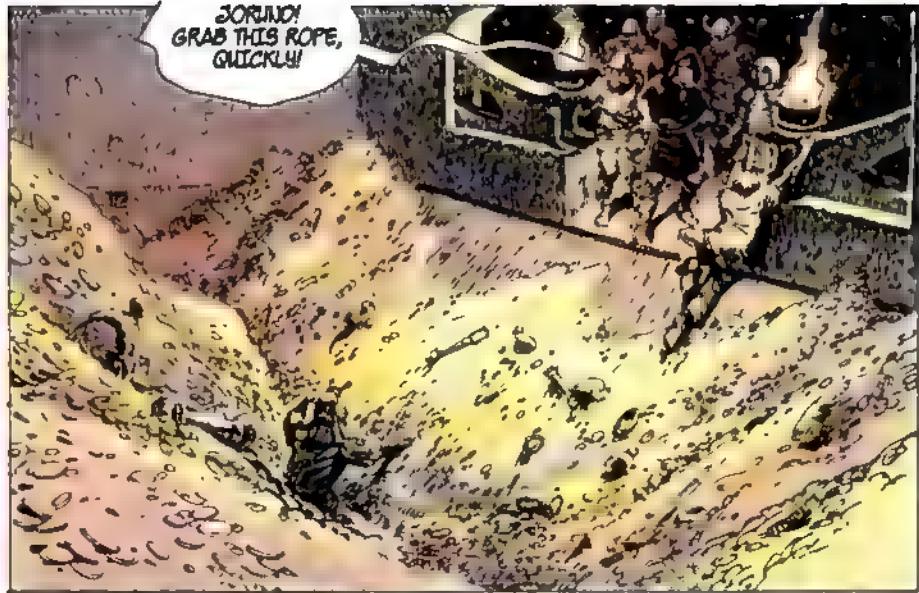


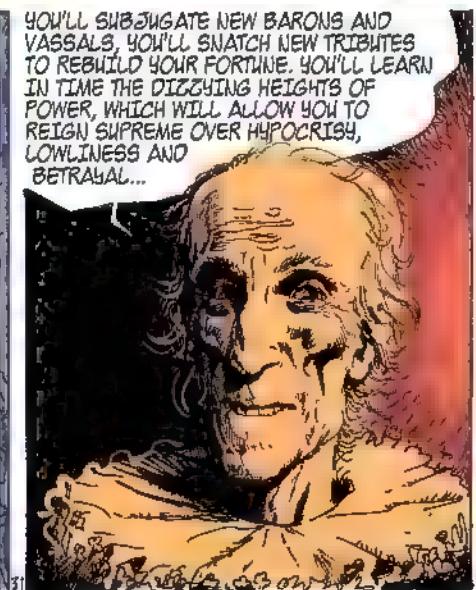
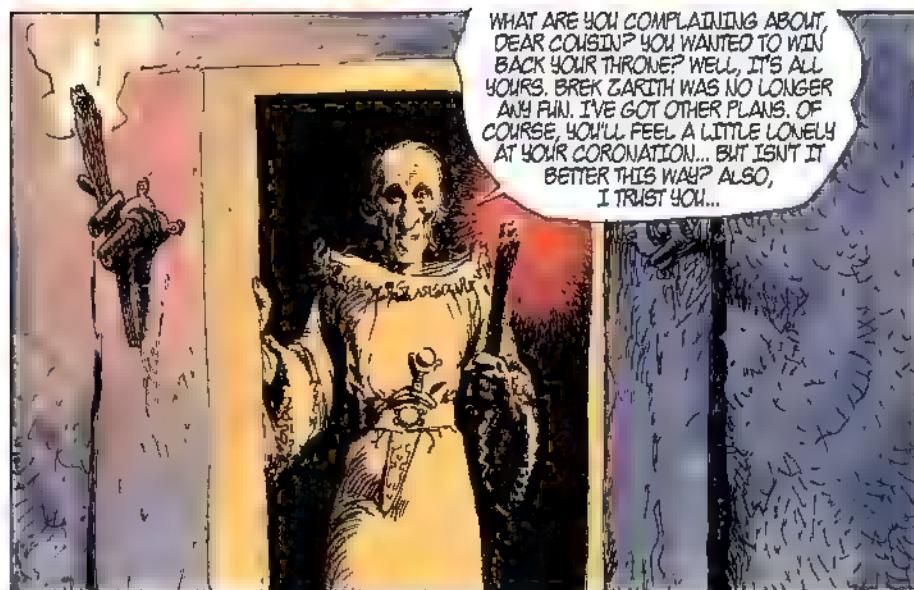


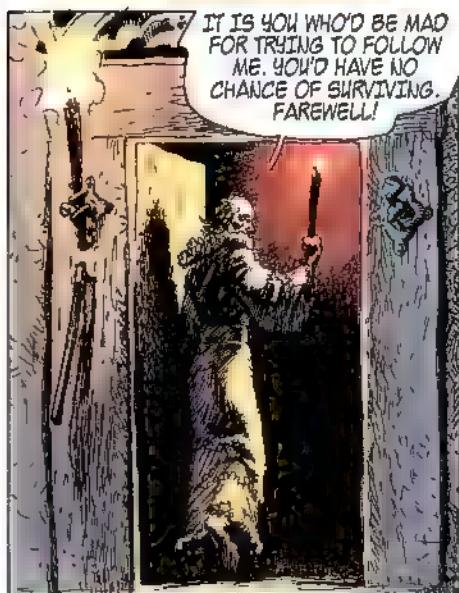
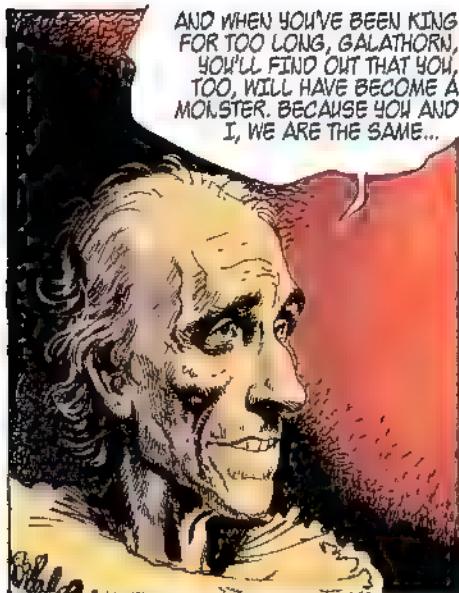




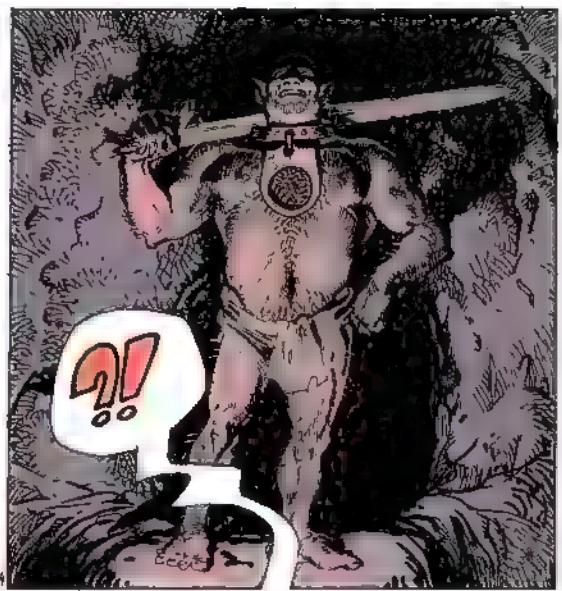


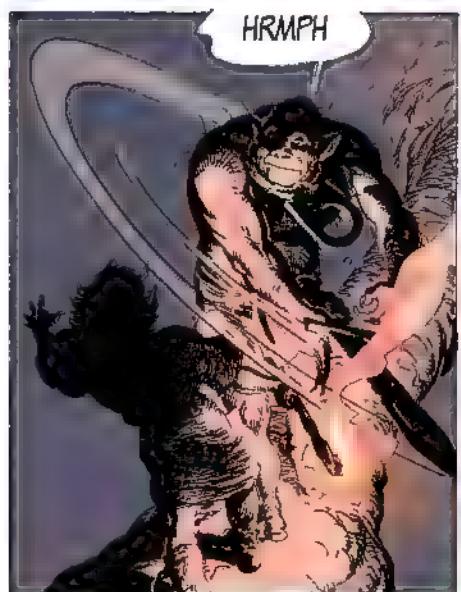
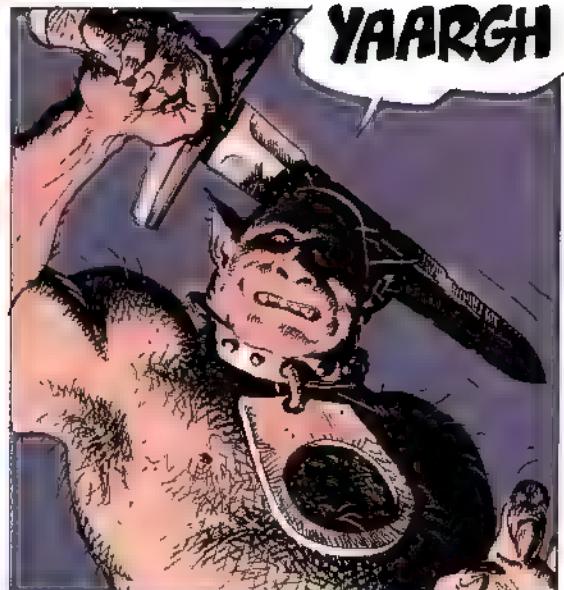








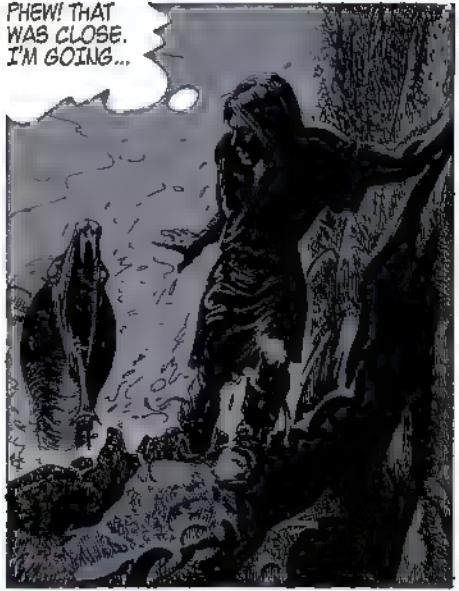






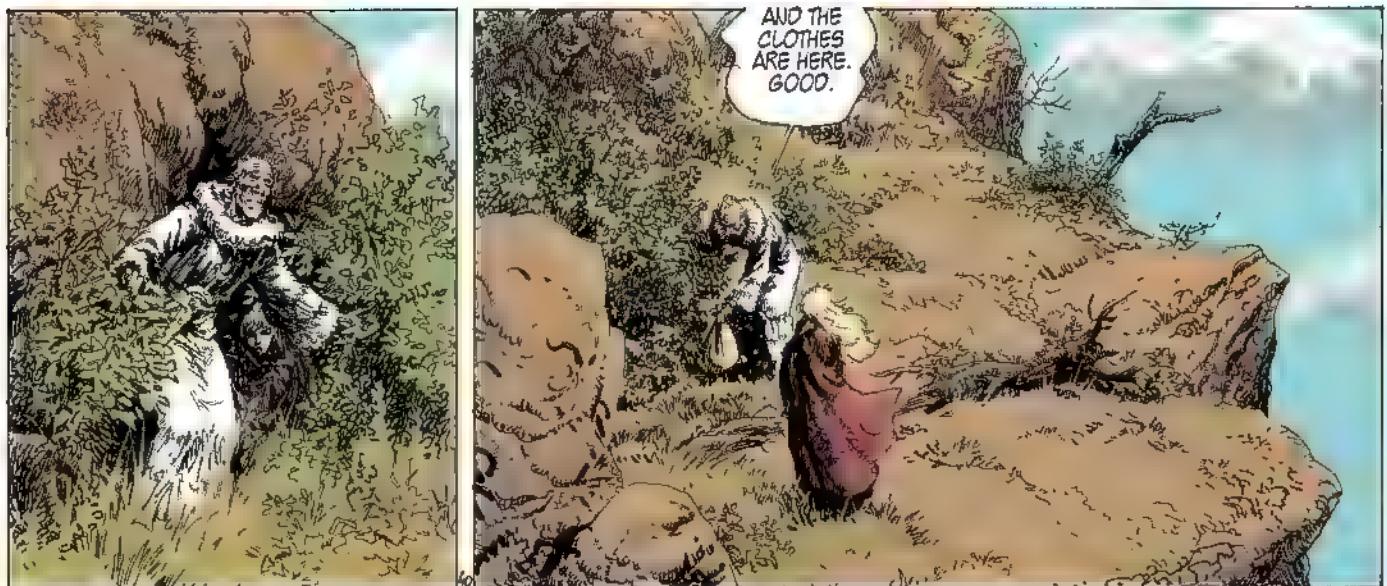
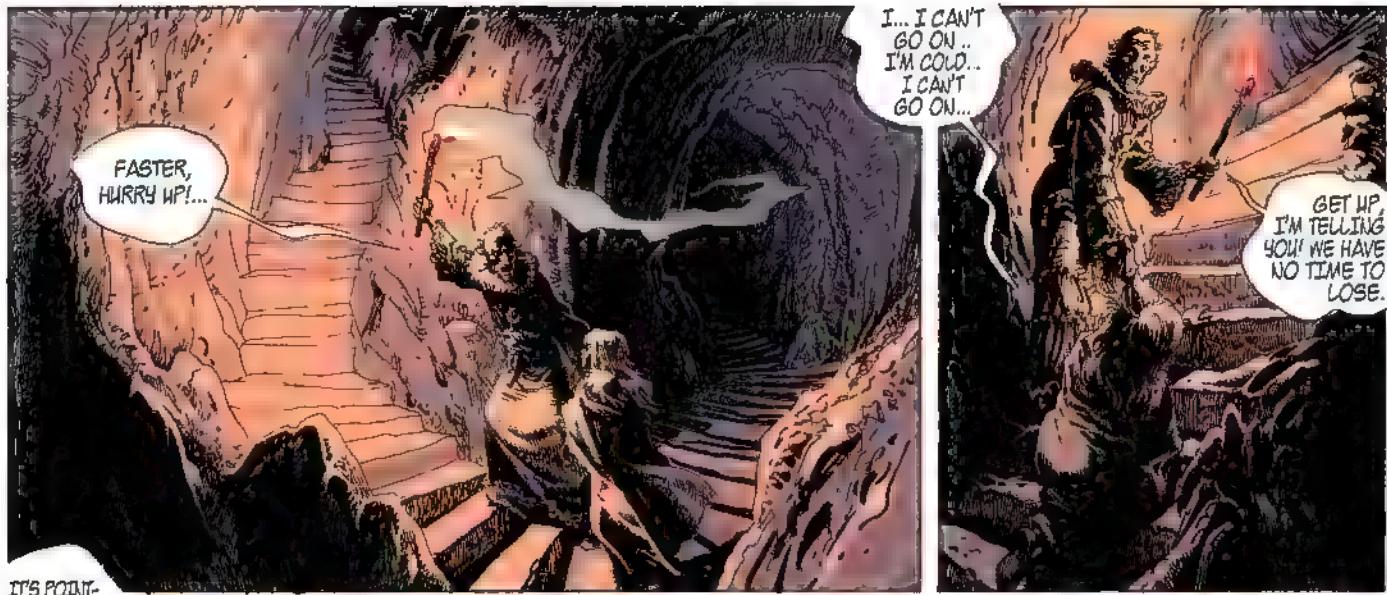
OBVIOUSLY
I HAVE TO EXPECT
A NEW TREACHERY
TO BEFALL ME...
BUT WHEN?...

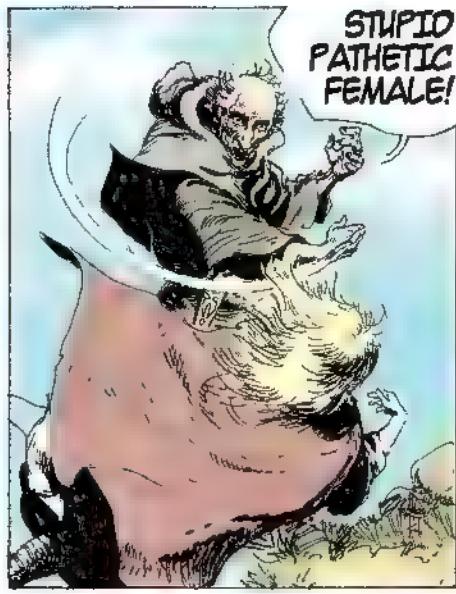
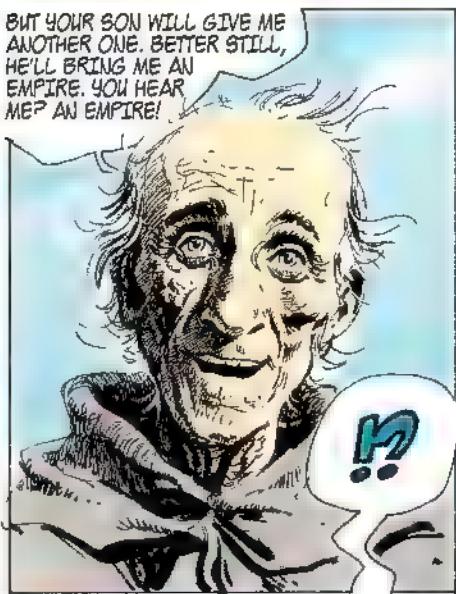


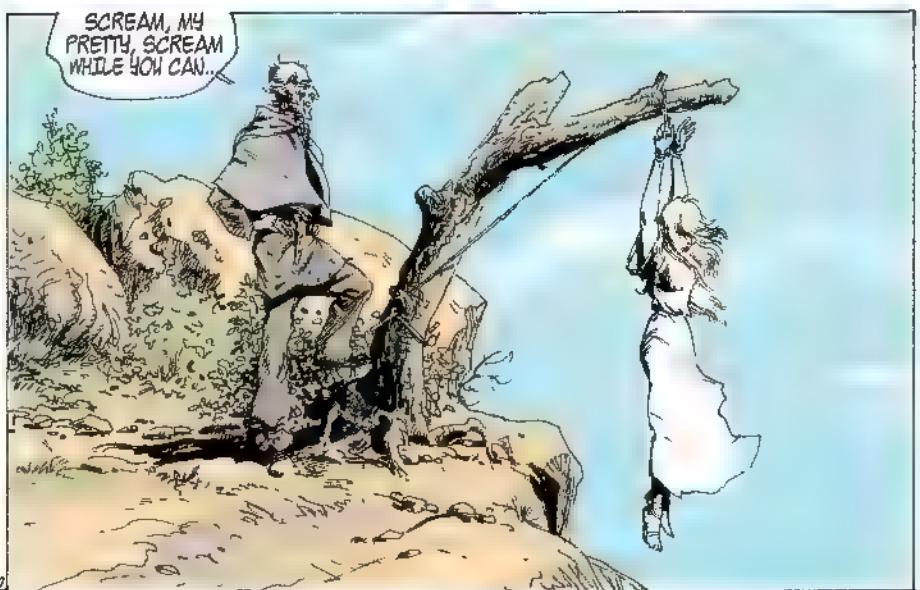


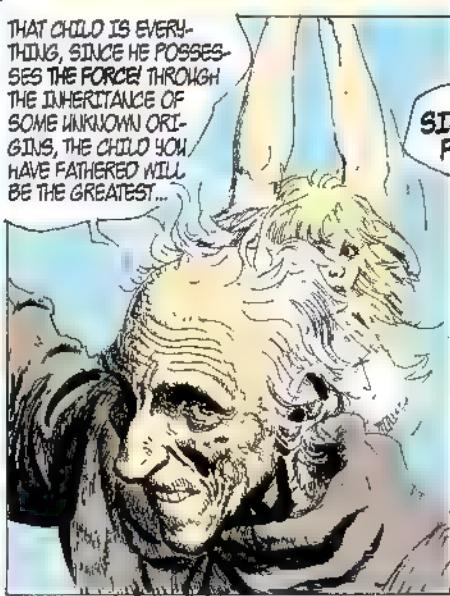
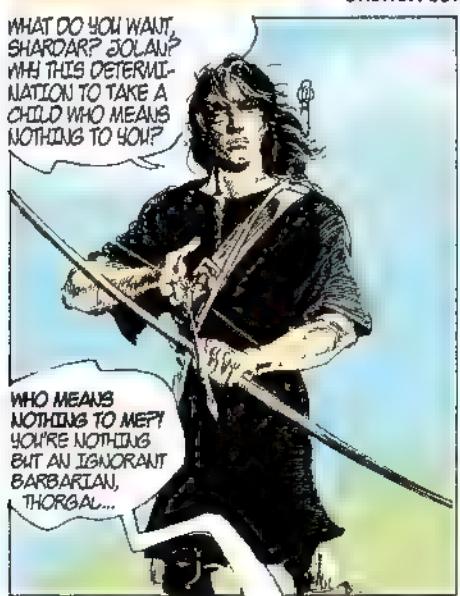
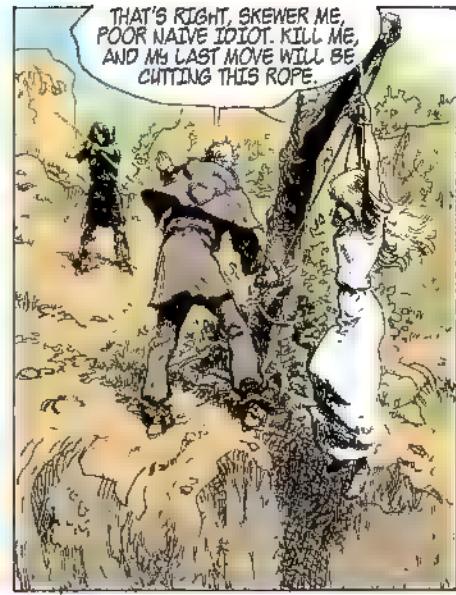
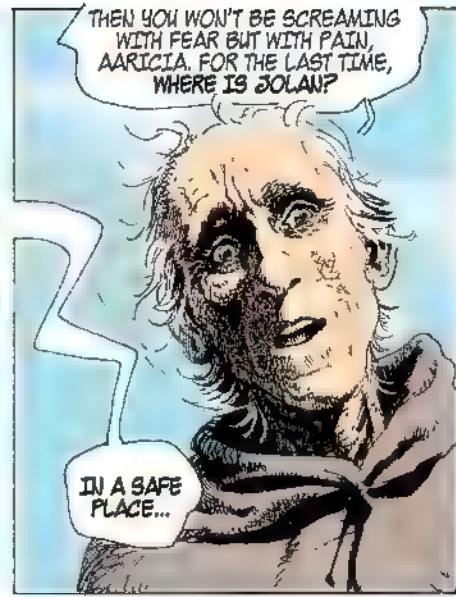












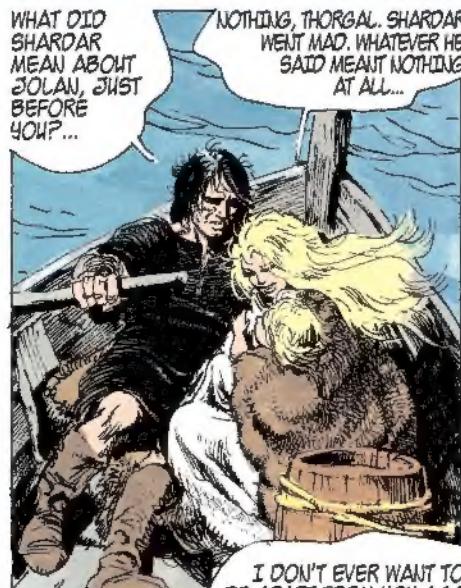






WHAT DID SHARDAR MEAN ABOUT JOLAN, JUST BEFORE YOU?...

NOTHING, THORGAL. SHARDAR WENT MAD. WHATEVER HE SAID MEANT NOTHING AT ALL...



JOLAN IS OUR SON, THAT'S ALL. HE'S NOTHING MORE THAN A LITTLE BOY LIKE ANY OTHER...



I DON'T EVER WANT TO BE APART FROM YOU AGAIN, MY LOVE. NEVER AGAIN.

WE WON'T BE, AARICIA, I PROMISE YOU.

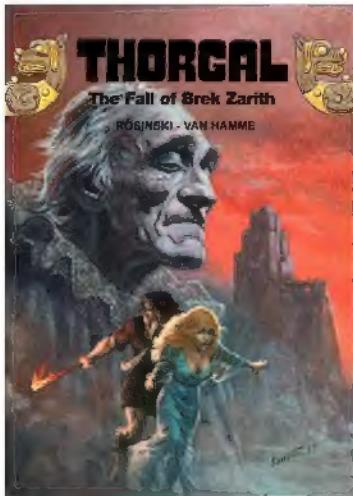


THE END

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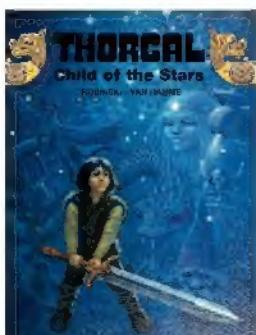
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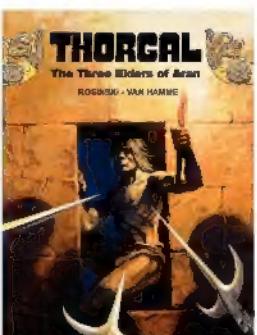


THORGAL

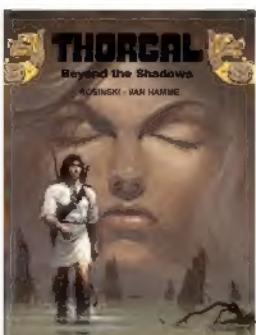
the gods have put a man to the test



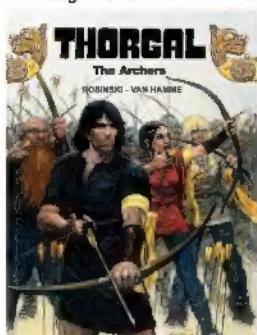
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Incl. Aaricia



② The Three Elders of Aran
Incl. The Black Galley



③ Beyond the Shadows
Incl. The Fall of Brek Zarith

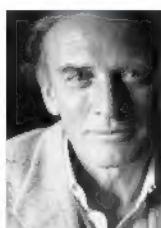


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